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CORREGIDOR FALLS

Capture of Palembang by Army Paratroops Recounted

Occupy Airfield and Refineries 24 Hours After Descent

FIGHT WITH PISTOLS

A stirring tale of the exploit of the Army parachutists who occupied Palembang, famous for its oil refining industry, on Sumatra after they had descended in broad daylight on February 14 was told by Lieutenant Etsutaro Tokunaga during his meeting with newspaper reporters at the War Ministry on Thursday. Lieutenant Tokunaga, who was with the parachutists whose feats will go down in history, has recently returned to Japan to make a report. His report in full follows:

"Our large formation of planes left a base in French Indo-China on February 6.

"We arrived at a base at the southern extremity of the Malay Peninsula. At this base, we spent a number of days, adjusting our equipment and undergoing ground training.

"At sunset on a certain day we left for our foremost advance base.

"On the night of February 13, the officers and others gathered together and made arrangements in regard to the planes which were to cooperate with us. Then we dined together for the last time.

"Morrow came ... it was the day for our departure.

"It was extremely warm, so warm that one was drenched in perspiration the moment he had a parachute strapped on his back.

"At 7 a.m. on that memorable day we all assembled at the air field.

Last Minute Instructions

"The commander of the unit to which we belonged gave us instructions. He said:

"'The operation we are going to conduct will be decisive of the whole campaign against the Netherlands East Indies. I want every one of you to consider himself a God-sent troop. I have a great wish that each of you will display a spirit of volunteering to undertake a difficult task and achieve brilliant results'.

"I myself had told the men under me to the following effect:

"'You must see that you do not use the term 'death-defying band' or 'desperate band'. If you allow the thought of life and death to enter your mind, you will be under a handicap in serving the State. Men, I should think, we must make constant endeavors to live. We must use our lives in a manner which will permit us to perform our duties to the State.'

"At 9 a.m. our planes, in a large formation, left our base. We were in the highest spirits.

"We flew southward. Presently the Malay Peninsula was behind us.

"Coming to the Malacca Strait, we observed black smoke, mingled with flames, overhanging Singapore to the south of us. We thought of the ground troops which were attacking Singapore, and the thought heartened us extremely.

"We advanced further in a southeasterly direction along the coast of Sumatra Island.

Caught in Dense Mist

"When we came near Muntok on Banka Island we were caught in a dense mist. About 10 minutes later the mist was behind us.

"I am sure that it was the first time that such a large formation of Japanese planes had ever penetrated such a dense mist.

"Shortly afterward we found ourselves flying over a larger tract of jungle land on Sumatra. As we came near Palembang we flew in a large circle. Our purpose was to find some suitable place from which we could penetrate into Palembang.

"Then we split into two groups. The main group headed for the air field, and the other group for the oil refineries.

"The landing operations of parachutists started at 11:26 a.m.

"I took part in the attacks on Palembang. Let me speak first of the operations against the air field.

"The neighborhood of the air field, as I learned later from those who participated in the attacks on it, was covered with shrubs. The lay was in the shape of a wave. There was a forest of gum trees to the south of the road leading to Jambi from Palembang. Inside the forest was awe-inspiring jungle land.

"Following descent by means of a parachute, the commander of the unit walked into the jungle land. Presently he was advancing in the direction of the southeastern corner of the air field. By 1:30 p.m. more than 10 troops had joined him.

Enemy Encountered

"Among the men who landed to the east and west of the road were Lieutenant Okumoto and a number of soldiers. As Lieutenant Okumoto was marching toward the air field, he saw 60 enemy troops coming from the direction of the field in four motor trucks. Putting himself at the head of a group of five troops, he allowed the enemy troops to come within 10 meters of him.

"Then his revolver spat flame. The bullet, hitting the driver of the first enemy truck, instantly killed him.

"Without a chauffeur, the vehicle sped on for a short distance and then overturned by the roadside.

"The second truck collided with the overturned vehicle, and it, too, overturned.

"Lieutenant Okumoto and his men charged against the enemy troops, and made short works of 20 enemy troops. Most of the remnants, in undescribable consternation, took to their heels. About 10 enemy troops who had no time to escape, were captured and disarmed.

"Shortly after they observed a number of motor trucks loaded with enemy troops coming from the direction of Palembang. At the sight of the overturned trucks, the enemy troops became frightened. They began to shoot at random.

Japanese Charge

"The Japanese charged and the enemy ran away, leaving behind more than ten killed.

"In the scuffle, some casualties on our side were suffered.

"Lieutenant Okumoto was wounded and four of his men killed or wounded.

"Fortunately they met a scout dispatched by the commander of the unit. The man led their way to where the commander of the unit was. The commander desired to cut off the retreat of the enemy troops at the airfield. He ordered a certain corps to turn and advance.

"Lieutenant Okumoto acted as guide to the company. The march of the company, which was through the jungle, was necessarily slow.

"The enemy troops, guessing the spot where we had descended, were advancing in own direction. The jungle through which their course lay rendered it difficult for both us and the enemy troops to keep communications open.

"There were scuffles here and there in jungle land.

"The commander of the corps himself was observed leading a charge against a group of enemy troops.

"A sergeant unsheathed his sword and made a dash against the enemy. In a fight in the enemy position

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HIS MAJESTY HONORS DARING PARATROOPS

Graciously Hears Account of Gallant Action at Palembang

OFFICIAL STATEMENT MADE

Surprise Attack Served to Cut Off N.E.I. From Malay Region

His Majesty the Emperor has graciously heard an account of the deeds of Japanese paratroops, who added a new page to the history of Greater East Asia when they launched a surprise attack and captured an airfield and oil refineries at Palembang, Sumatra, on February 14 and 15.

It will be recalled that the daring and dauntless action with which these paratroops accomplished their weighty mission received a citation from General Count Hisaichi Terauchi, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in the Southern Regions, dated February 15.

Announcement Issued

Relative to the honor this time bestowed upon the members of the parachute corps and the collaborating corps, the following announcement was issued by the War Ministry on Thursday at 4 p.m.

"The distinguished services rendered by the Kume Parachute Corps and the Direct Cooperative Corps in capturing Palembang, a keypoint in Sumatra, on February 14 and 15, which received a citation from the Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in the Southern Regions, had the honor of being submitted for Imperial hearing."

The citation above referred to reads to the following effect:

"Kume Parachute Corps and Direct Cooperative Corps:

"As the first parachute corps and a corps extending direct cooperation, the abovementioned Corps, smashing the stiff resistance of the enemy both from land and air, launched a surprise attack on Palembank, a key-point in Sumatra, during two days beginning February 14 and defying death, captured the enemy air base before it was destroyed.

"This brave and dauntless action, unparalleled in history, definitely served to cut off the Netherlands East Indies from the Malay region and, moreover, placed in the hands of the Japanese Forces the key to future operations. The distinguished service thus rendered is an outstanding accomplishment.

"February 15, 1942.

"General Count Hisaich Terauchi,

"Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in the Southern Regions."

Doihara Issues Statement

General Kenji Doihara, Inspector-General of the Imperial Army Aviation, issued the following statement concerning the spectacular feat of the paratroops and their cooperating corps.

"It is a great honor not only for the Corps itself but for the Army Aviation Headquarters that an account of the brilliant achievements of the first Army Parachute Corps at Palembang on February 14 and 15 was submitted for Imperial hearing after a citation.

"The members of the Parachute Corps, who underwent strenuous training for months which evidently built up the overwhelming fighting spirit, and those of the Cooperative Corps formed one single body and made a death-defying descent to the enemy position, manifesting to the full the real value of the paratroops in performing their weighty task.

"Their remarkable performance proved beyond the slightest doubt to be the beginning of the successful Java campaign, leading to the unconditional surrender of the Netherlands East Indies forces. Their action also contributed greatly toward securing the rich southern re-

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Imperial Rescript

We, by grace of heaven, Emperor of Japan, seated on the Throne of a line unbroken for ages eternal, enjoin upon ye, Our loyal and brave subjects:

We hereby declare war on the United States of America and the British Empire. The men and officers of Our Army and Navy shall do their utmost in prosecuting the war, Our public servants of various departments shall perform faithfully and diligently their appointed tasks, and all other subjects of Ours shall pursue their respective duties; the entire nation with a united will shall mobilize their total strength so that nothing will miscarry in the attainment of Our war aims.

To insure the stability of East Asia and to contribute to world peace is the far-sighted policy which was formulated by our Great illustrious Imperial Grandsire and Our Great Imperial sire succeeding Him, and which We lay constantly to heart. To cultivate friendship among nations and to enjoy prosperity in common with all nations has always been the guiding principle of Our Empire's foreign policy. It has been truly unavoidable and far from Our wishes that Our Empire has now been brought to cross swords with America and Britain. More than four years have passed since China, failing to comprehend the true intentions of Our Empire, and recklessly courting trouble, disturbed the peace of East Asia and compelled Our Empire to take up arms. Although there has been re-established the National Government of China, with which Japan has effected neighborly intercourse and cooperation, the regime which has survived at Chungking, relying upon American and British protection, still continues its fratricidal opposition. Eager for the realization of their inordinate ambition to dominate the Orient, both America and Britain, giving support to the Chungking regime, have aggravated the disturbances in East Asia. Moreover, these two Powers, inducing other countries to follow suit, increased military preparations on all sides of Our Empire to challenge us. They have obstructed by every means our peaceful commerce, and finally resorted to a direct severance of economic relations, menacing gravely the existence of Our Empire. Patiently have We waited and long have We endured, in the hope that Our Government might retrieve the situation in peace. But our adversaries, showing not the least spirit of conciliation, have unduly delayed a settlement; and in the meantime, they have intensified the economic and political pressure to compel thereby Our Empire to submission. This trend of affairs would, if left unchecked, not only nullify Our Empire's efforts of many years for the sake of the stabilization of East Asia, but also endanger the very existence of Our nation. The situation being such as it is, Our Empire for its existence and self-defense has no other recourse but to appeal to arms and to crush every obstacle in its path.

The hallowed spirits of Our Imperial Ancestors guarding Us from above, We rely upon the loyalty and courage of Our subjects in Our confident expectation that the task bequeathed by Our forefathers will be carried forward, and that the sources of evil will be speedily eradicated and an enduring peace immutably established in East Asia, preserving thereby the glory of Our Empire.

(Released by the Board of Information, December 8, 1941.)

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT GRANTED

His Majesty the Emperor on Thursday graciously awarded an Imperial Rescript on General Hisaichi Terauchi, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in the Southern Regions, and Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, in appreciation of the brilliant services rendered toward the overthrow of the United States' base in East Asia, according to a communique issued by the Imperial Headquarters at 7:10 p.m. Thursday. The communique follows:

"His Majesty the Emperor was pleased to summon the Army Chief of Staff and Navy Chief of Staff of the Imperial Headquarters today and graciously awarded the following Imperial Rescript on the Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in the Southern Regions and the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet:

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT

"We deeply appreciate that the Army and Navy Forces operating in the Philippine area, in close and appropriate cooperation, have crushed the enemy air force upon the outbreak of the War and at the same time effected difficult landing operations on various places. After brave fighting and daring combat, they quickly occupied Manila, the enemy capital, and swept away the enemy offering stubborn resistance taking advantage of natural vantage points, thereby succeeding in overthrowing the United States base in East Asia."

THRONE AID LEAGUE STARTS 3 PROJECTS

Civilian Air Defense, Municipal Elections, Health Campaign Will Receive Attention

ISHIWATA TO BROADCAST

Will Read Imperial Rescript Declaring War to Impress Its Spirit on People

Three movements of national importance will be launched by the Imperial Rule Assistance Association today, the Imperial Rescript Observance Day. They are for strengthening of civilian air defense, the successful completion of the Throne Aid Municipal election, and realization of the national health campaign, according to Domei.

In this connection Sotaro Ishiwata, director of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, will broadcast on a nationwide hook-up today. To impress the spirit of the Imperial Rescript on the declaration of war more deeply on the people, the subject of his broadcast will be a reading of the Imperial Rescript.

From 7:30 p.m., Welfare Minister Chikahiko Koizumi will speak on the national health movement for 10 minutes, to be followed by Hisayoshi Honma on the National Livelihood Mobilization Headquarters, who will give a 10-minute lecture on civilian air defense.

As to the municipal elections to be held throughout the country, it is reported that an active Throne Aid election campaign will be staged by the Imperial Rule Assistance Association for the satisfactory execution of local administrative self-government.

By introducing the national health campaign throughout the country, efforts will be made for population increase, the encouragement of marriages, and the general improvement of the standard of the nation's health with particular stress laid on the prevention of tuberculosis and other diseases, it is further reported.

LENINGRAD OBJECTIVES BLASTED BY GERMANS

Airfields on Island of Malta Raided—Inflict Damage on Folkstone

Domei

BERLIN, May 6.—German artillery yesterday heavily shelled military objectives in Leningrad, causing big fires, the High Command announced today.

In the Mediterranean, German aircraft were said to have again raided British airfields on the island of Malta yesterday.

Referring to the Battle of Britain, the communique said German light bombers yesterday heavily attacked Folkstone, near Dover at the narrowest point of the Channel, inflicting severe damages on munitions factories and railway stations.

BRITAIN NOW A U.S. BASE

Accord Said Reached for Use by American Planes

Domei

LISBON, May 6.—An agreement is said to have been reached between the British and American Government establishing the British mainland as the base of operations for the United States Army Air Force, according to reliable information received here from London today.

Aiming at the strengthening of Anglo-American joint military operations, the agreement was first proposed by the United States Government and later accepted by the British in its original form, the report said.

Army and Navy Forces Made Landing on May 5

ALL FORTS OCCUPIED

The much-vaunted invulnerability of Corregidor in the Philippines was proved false, as the fortress, firmly entrenched by the American-Filipino troops was completely reduced by Japanese attacking forces Thursday, according to an Imperial Headquarters' communique issued at 5:50 p.m. on the same day. The communique reads:

"Imperial Japanese Army and Navy Forces in the Philippine area succeeded in effecting a forced landing on the island fortress of Corregidor at 11:15 p.m. on May 5 and then completely reduced the island and all forts on other islands at the mouth of Manila Bay at 8 a.m. on May 7."

The fugitive American-Filipino troops, who were defeated in the Bataan Peninsula by the Japanese Forces on April 11, had been offering useless resistance on Corregidor subsequently. They, however, had been exposed to the devastating bombings of the Army and Navy Air Forces almost every day since. Their defeat was a mere question of time. The landing in the face of enemy resistance by the daring Japanese Army and Navy Units at 11:15 p.m. on May 5, finally dealt the finishing blow to the enemy. Unable to resist the furious onset of the Japanese Forces, the whole island as well as its neighboring fort-isles was completely reduced on Thursday. This was the 27th day since the capitulation of the Bataan Peninsula. As a result, the whole region of Luzon, to which this island belongs, has been occupied by the Japanese Forces. The advance base of the American operation in East Asia thus has been completely upset.

Corregidor is a small island commanding the entrance to Manila Bay. It is three miles long by one mile wide, rising abruptly from the sea to a height of 635 feet. There is a lighthouse on the summit. The island was strongly fortified by the Spaniards in the 18th century, but the defenses were not kept up. When Admiral Dewey of the United States made his dash into Manila Bay on May 1, 1898, he steamed past this island, which was supposed to be very strongly fortified, and the base of operations for the mines and torpedoes with which the bay was declared to be thickly strewn. The forts were subsequently strengthened by the United States Government, which established an arsenal there in 1900.

INFORMATION BOARD SPOKESMAN COMMENTS

Commenting on the fall of Corregidor, the Spokesman of the Information Board issued the following statement on Thursday:

"Having suffered defeat after defeat since the opening of the War of Greater East Asia, the United States Government and fighting services placed their reliance upon the strong defensive establishments in the Bataan Peninsula and Corregidor and continued their so-called 'heroic' resistance merely for propaganda purposes as has been revealed through their press and radio reports. The Bataan Peninsula fell soon after our Imperial Forces commenced a general attack, and only the island of Corregidor remained to offer resistance which has been regarded futile to all intents and purposes, not only by us but by the defenders themselves. The forlorn but persistent resistance of General Wainright and his forces in Corregidor, however, seemed to provide the Roosevelt Administration and its allies with the only available material with which to concoct a seemingly plausible story of a successful campaign from which they might develop their much advertized offensive to turn the tide of the Pacific war and to stir up the fast declining morale of its people and their allies and to cover up its helpless military situation.

"It must be pointed out, however, that the chief characteristic of the present War of Greater East Asia lies in the fact that it is a conflict between the Anglo-American conception of the omnipotence of materialistic civilization and the Japanese belief in the inestimable value of spiritual power devoted to their Emperor.

"Our enemies failed utterly to understand such a peculiar character of the present War. The innocent American people placed their complete trust in the apparent impregnability of the artificial fortress in Corregidor as the British had done on the fortress of Singapore. But their commander on the spot, General Douglas MacArthur, seeing that he could no longer defend the Philippines successfully, sneaked out of the doomed fortress as early as March, leaving behind him a large force of hard-pressed officers and men only to face the inevitable annihilation or submission, and sought refuge in Australia under the excuse of becoming the commander-in-chief of the Allied forces in Australia.

"It was a pitiable sight that the United States authorities had to capitalize the name of MacArthur as the American Hero No. 1. Events have moved inexporably, however, and all the hopes, desires and prayers of the enemy camp have become naught

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MADAGASCAR FRENCH PUT UP STIFF FIGHT AGAINST BRITISH IN NORTHERN AREA OF ISLAND

Fleet Composed of Some 23 Ships Shell Fortress

SITUATION CRITICAL

R.A.F. Suffers Seven Planes Downed During Air Attack On Diego Suarez

VICHY CABINET MEETING

Domei

VICHY, May 6.—French troops and air forces in Madagascar are offering a stiff resistance against the British fleet, composed of some 23 vessels, which has been shelling the fortress of Diego Suarez since early this morning, but the situation is critical for the French, Governor-General Annet of Madagascar announced in a communique today, Havas reports here.

In the course of yesterday's fighting, three British planes were shot down while seven armored cars were destroyed by the French forces, the announcement revealed.

Meanwhile, French marine corps staging fierce counter-attacks have recaptured several points which the French had been forced to abandon, the announcement stated.

Fighting Continues

Fierce fighting is continuing on the island of Madagascar between French and British troops, according to information reaching here from Madagascar.

Although British aircraft heavily bombed the naval port in Diego Suarez today the British air force suffered the loss of seven planes shot down, the report said.

With the French carrying out daring counter-attacks against the invading troops, fighting on the island is steadily growing in intensity, the report added.

The general situation on Madagascar following the British landing at Diego Suarez, at the northern tip of the island, was explained by Premier Pierre Laval at an emergency Cabinet meeting called by the Premier this morning upon receipt of news of the new British offensive.

During the meeting, which was attended by Marshal Henri Philippe Petain, Chief-of-State, Premier Laval made it clear that he has as yet received no reports of further British landings at any other point on Madagascar.

Details of the Madagascar situation then were explained by Rear-Admiral Gabriel Auphan, Secretary of the Navy, and Jules Brevie, Secretary of Colonies, who declared that the French garrison troops there have been putting up stout resistance against the British invaders.

No details are available as to what decision was reached at the meeting on Vichy's future policy toward Britain and the United States, but it is believed that the Government will adhere to its established policy of defending Madagascar to the end.

Severe Battle Going On

Domei

LISBON, May 6.—Fierce fighting is in progress in the vicinity of Diego Suarez, strategic port in northern Madagascar, between British landing forces and French garrisons whose resistance has become stronger and stronger, the United Press reports from London.

Meantime, Reuters claims that although the French forces have been resisting stubbornly, British troops have advanced 32 kilometers since their landing on Madagascar, adding, however, that the outcome of the fighting is yet unknown.

WARPLANES RAID ENEMY FACILITIES AT PAOSHAN

Shoot Down 2 Chungking Combat Planes and Destroy 7 Others on Ground

Domei

JAPANESE BASE, May 6.—Powerful formations of fighters and bombers of the Japanese Army Air Forces, swarming over Paoshan, western Yunnan Province, on Monday, shot down two Chungking combat planes and destroyed seven others, including one large plane, on the ground.

The Japanese then showered large-caliber bombs upon the Chungking 66th Army within and outside the town, dealing a deadly blow to the enemy.

According to reports submitted by Japanese scouting planes, the city of Paoshan, as well as military installations, have been reduced to ruins, as a result of the intensive bombing by the Army Air Force.

Premier Invites Envoys

Premier Hideki Tojo who is concurrently War Minister invited Lieutenant-General Yoshitsugu Tatekawa, former Japanese Ambassador to the Soviet Union, and Teiji Tsubokami, Japanese Ambassador to Thailand, for dinner at 7 p.m. Thursday at the official residence of the War Minister.

America May Take Positive Step Against Island of Martinique

Domei

BERLIN, May 6.—Cordell Hull, U.S. Secretary of State, yesterday hinted the possibility of America taking positive action against the French island of Martinique in the Caribbean Sea when he stated to the press that the Government is watching developments on the island with great concern, the German News Agency reports here from Stockholm.

U.S.-VICHY TENSION RAPIDLY CLIMBING

Next 48 Hours to Decide Future Relation Between Two Countries

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, May 6.—The zero hour in diplomatic relations between France on the one hand and Britain and the United States on the other will come within 48 hours, and Premier Pierre Laval will most likely take a decisive move against Britain, possibly resulting in automatically bringing about of the worst situation between France and the United States, according to a telegram from Washington to La Nacion here.

The telegram says the French defense forces in Madagascar Island apparently offered resistance against the British landing troops, and within the next 48 hours it will be made clear whether the situation will be further aggravated.

Premier Laval may make this illegal act of Britain the principal reason for opening war against Britain, in which case it will automatically throw France and the United States in a state of war, the telegram added.

Although the American people are sympathizing with the different situation now being faced by France, they think all is fair before the hard necessity of defense, and while the invasion of Madagascar Island was executed by Britain alone, the United States at once declared that she is in full accord with the British action, it was further said.

Admitting that the British invasion of the island was pre-arranged, a member of the Pacific War Council at its sitting yesterday stated that the Allies this time took the initiative, the dispatch added.

Hull Issues Statement

Domei

LISBON, May 6.—Secretary of State Cordell Hull declared in a statement to the press yesterday that the United States fully supports the British invasion of Madagascar and that the United States army and navy may take action against other French territory, if necessary, according to a telegram received here from Washington.

Mr. Hull said that the United States army and navy are prepared to take action in support of the British operation in Madagascar, and that in the event the United States sees danger of the Vichy Government permitting the use of French colonial bases to the Axis Powers, the United States may take action against such French bases.

In the United States, Secretary Hull's reference to French colonial bases is generally understood to include Dakar, West Africa.

BRITAIN OFFERS TO GIVE AUSSIES INDIRECT HELP

Shortage of Bottoms Prevent Sending Troops—Recommends Getting U.S. Help

Special

STOCKHOLM, May 2.—Very little hope of direct British assistance to Australia was held out by Sir Ronald Cross, British High Commissioner to Australia, in a recent speech in Melbourne, according to a report published by the London News Chronicle.

Britain, Sir Ronald declared, would like to send troops to Australia but unfortunately the necessary shipping facilities were lacking. Because of this fact, he added, Australia had, better obtain her reinforcements from the United States.

British assistance, the High Commissioner asserted, must of necessity remain indirect, by attempting to relieve the Australian situation by intervening in other theaters of war.

JEWISH NEWSMEN REMOVED

Domei

ISTANBUL, May 6.—The semi-official Anatolie News Agency suddenly dismissed 17 Jewish correspondents yesterday upon orders from the Government to eliminate all dangerous elements from the staff, it was learned today.

Considerable interest has been aroused by the move as it came after alleged anti-German reports by the Agency in connection with the evacuation ship for Jews, the Smyrna, the report said.

Gallant Paratroops Prepare for Action

Thanks to the gallant action of the Japanese Paratroop Corps and its Cooperative Corps on February 14 and 15, which resulted in the capture of the airfield at Palembang, the N.E.I. was completely cut off from the Malay Peninsula. Seen here is the Tokunaga Unit of the Paratroop Corps at a certain base. (Photo presented by the War Ministry).

CHUNGKING GENERALS AND STILLWELL FLEE

Unable to Hold Own Against Japanese Attacks, Escape To Rear Base in Burma

Domei

SHANGHAI, May 7.—Unable to hold their own against severe Japanese onslaughts, Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stillwell, Chief of Staff of the Chungking army, and other Chungking military leaders recently fled toward their rear base in Burma, it was learned.

Chungking Distorts Defeats

Domei

NANKING, May 6.—In an attempt to cover up the defeats of the Chiang Kai-shek forces in Burma which have been thrown into utter confusion, making it impossible to bring them under a single command, the spokesman of the Chungking Military Commission stated on April 30 that in view of the inferiority of the Allied air forces, it has been advantageous for the Chungking forces in Burma to adopt guerrilla tactics on the whole Burma front, avoiding concentrating of troops at special points.

The spokesman admitted the difficulties facing the Chungking troops which are now on the verge of total collapse in the Japanese encirclement, and added that communications between British and Chungking forces have been cut off in rear owing to the speedy Japanese operations.

Chiang Kai-shek's recent inspection trip of the Burma front was made for the purpose of mapping out proper measures to cope with such conditions, he said.

Problem for Allies

Domei

BERNE, May 6.—While the Allied Powers are making strenuous efforts to open up a supply route to the Chungking regime, a Calcutta correspondent of the London Times reports that although the Chungking section of the Assam route has been completed, early construction of the route in Indian territory cannot be expected while what is called air transportation also cannot be relied upon, according to a report from London.

The poor consolation that President Roosevelt must be planning action in the Pacific because he promised assistance to the Chungking regime was London's reply through the radio to the earnest request of Chiang Kai-shek regime for close collaboration of Allied forces in the Pacific and bombing attacks on Japan Proper, the report said.

Meantime, the London Daily Mail, as causes of the Allied defeat in Burma enumerated political failure, Burmese hostility against the British, shortage of air forces, imperfection of communications, poor wireless facilities, and failure to dispatch re-enforcements, the London report added.

His Majesty Honors Daring Paratroops

(Continued From Page 1)

sources.

"We are prepared and determined to serve further for the cause of the State in responding to the honor bestowed upon us today."

Unit Commander Seiichiro Kume, hero of the Palembang occupation, was born in Sakade-machi, Ayautagun, Kagawa Prefecture and is a graduate of the Military Staff College. He served in the Army Technical Headquarters in 1933, was promoted to the staff of the Army Ordinance Headquarters in the following year and was appointed as one of the staff officers of the Western Defense Headquarters in 1937. In the following year, he served as an instructor at the Hamamatsu Aviation School, having been transferred to his present position after serving in the Imperial Army Aviation Headquarters.

Count Kaneko Better

The condition of Count Kentaro Kaneko, Privy Councillor, showed a slight improvement Thursday morning, reports Domei. His temperature was recorded at 36.5 degrees, pulse 99 and respiration 22.

Foreign News Spotlight

Exclusive Flashes

BATAAN SURRENDER HUMILIATING TO AMERICANS

LISBON, May 6.—Condemning the complacent attitude of the American people in looking down upon the Japanese, the American weekly Time, in no soft terms, admitted that the unconditional surrender of Bataan was a severe blow for the United States in the Pacific, it was reported here today. The periodical conceded that the unjustified conceit of the Americans ultimately proved their undoing, and concluded that seldom in the past had American soldiers been placed in so humiliating a position as the United States before and after the fall of Bataan, the report added.

ATTITUDE OF AMERICANS, BRITISH CRITICIZED

STOCKHOLM, May 7.—Hitting furiously at the over-confident attitude of the American and British people, the Australian Minister for External Affairs, Dr. Herbert Evatt, at a press conference in London, harshly criticized their shortsighted tendency to underestimate Japan's enormous strength. In five months, he pointed out, Japan had not only taken complete possession of one of the richest empires in all history but had securely laid her base in Singapore, destroying all arguments about Japan's long line of communication.

AMERICAN NEWSPAPER SCORNS BURMA FAILURE

LISBON, May 7.—Scorning the failure of the Allies in their Burma campaign, the New York Times criticized the fall of Mandalay as representing the outcome of the Burma campaign in a nutshell, a campaign "too little and too late," it was reported today.

WAR MATERIALS SHORTAGE FELT BY U.S.

STOCKHOLM, May 7.—Feeling keenly the severe shortage of numerous war materials, the United States Government not only tightened their control of petrol throughout the country, but also placed severe restrictions on the consumption of rubber, iron, and steel, it was announced today.

CONSERVATION OF RUBBER URGED

LISBON, May 7.—The problem of extreme rubber shortage becoming increasingly urgent, the Lord Mayor of Melbourne was finally compelled to warn Australians yesterday pressing the necessity for rubber conservation and substitution.

Corregidor Base Falls

(Continued From Page 1)

with the fall of Corregidor, the last stronghold of the Anglo-American Powers in East Asia.

"The fall of Corregidor, coming on the heels of the utter failure of the Anglo-American-Chungking forces in Burma, we can well imagine the disappointment and uneasiness of the leaders as well as the peoples of the United States and Britain who have hitherto believed in the propaganda of their Governments that the island fortress would be defended to the last drop of blood of their last man.

"We cannot also help feeling deep compassion for the Government and people of Australia, who have had to entrust their entire destiny as well as their fighting services to the hands of a foreign general, who had failed to defend even his own post. Woe to the Australians, who have not as yet realized the futility of relying solely upon the lip service of the incompetent and irresponsible Anglo-American combination."

BIG STOCK OF COTTON LOST IN SOUTH AFRICA

Bales Valued at £1,750,000, Belonging to Britain, Burned in Fire

Special

LISBON, April 27.—Cotton belonging to the British Government valued at £1,750,000 was destroyed by fire at East London in the Union of South Africa over the week-end, according to a report from Cape Town.

The fire was caused by "flying sparks," it was officially stated.

The cotton had come from Egypt and was to be shipped to Britain at the earliest opportunity.

Ex-Envoy to Austria Dies

Masasuke Akatsuka, former Japanese Minister to Austria, passed away of illness Wednesday afternoon at his villa in Kugenuma, Kanagawa Prefecture. He was 71 years old. Funeral services will be held at his home, in Nishikatamachi, Hongo-ku, at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Paraguay's Party Dissolved

Special

BUENOS AIRES, April 26.—Paraguay's Liberal Party has been dissolved by President General Higino Morinigo, according to a report from Asuncion. The party is being accused of high treason.

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PROSPERITY REIGNS UNDER WANG'S RULE

Lieutenant-General Oikawa Reports Healthy Development In All Fields

Concrete signs of steady development in the financial, industrial and social fields in North and Central China and the healthy agrarian condition under the National Government of China were revealed by Lieutenant-General Genshichi Oikawa, Acting Director-General of the China-Affairs Board, who has just returned from an inspection tour of North and Central China, according to Domei.

A new national people's movement is underway in China, while cooperation of the National Government of China with Japan is progressing steadily, Lieutenant-General Oikawa declared.

National tranquility is so widespread that agrarian income has doubled since last year, and provincial tax revenues, a keen barometer of public order and prosperity, have shown better results than before the China Affair, the Director-General said.

Aid No Longer Necessary

He added that it is not necessary now for the provincial governments to rely on the Central Government for financial aid in maintaining peace and order.

Meanwhile, the regulation of property in Shanghai formerly belonging to enemy nationals has been effected through the efforts of Japanese nationals, he said.

The supply of essential raw materials to Japan, moreover, shows promising gains, Lieutenant-General Oikawa said, adding that with steady peaceful conditions, the national policy companies are active and producing more than their quota.

Construction and renovation of coastal ports are showing steady progress, Lieutenant-General Oikawa concluded.

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Today's Press Comments

Friday, May 8, 1942

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Translations of other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Japan Times and Advertiser.)

Intrepid Parachute Corps

MIYAKO—A citation has been awarded by the Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in the Southern Regions on the parachute corps which staged a surprise attack on Palembang on February 14 and 15. The incident also was graciously heard by the Throne. For the entire Japanese nation, this is a matter of gratification. Incidents of parachute corps attacks have been reported occasionally since the outbreak of World War II. But the fact that the Japanese Unit with a small number of parachutists made a surprise attack on a place located far from Japan and that it finally led to the successful Java operations is unprecedented in the war annals of the world. This is attributed to everyday hard training of those who participated in the attack and air forces that cooperated with them and also to the spirit of their unswerving loyalty. In reading over the announcement just made we cannot but bow respectfully to their deed and spirit.

Rice, Salt and Bean-Paste

HOCHI—The Japanese live on rice, salt and bean-paste. They form the basis of our livelihood. That the Japanese are able to go through the wartime livelihood with much ease is due to these simple foods. There are more than 3,000 kinds of foods the Japanese are taking, but the securing of the foregoing three basic foods is absolutely important for their daily living. Apart from other foods, these basic foods must be had by the Japanese to their heart's content. If this is realized, how peaceful will be the people's mind toward the foodstuff problem.

Compensation for British Aggression

CHUGAI—With the anticipated Japanese mastery over the Indian Ocean and the reinstatement of Pierre Laval, the American pressure on the Vichy Government gradually came to surface. In parallel with the American move, the British Government had likewise brought pressure to bear upon France, "working" on certain elements in the Union of South Africa to effect a severance of diplomatic relations with the Vichy Government.

In spite of the Anglo-American machination, however, Mr. Laval was reinstated as new Premier of the Vichy Government while on the other hand, the Imperial Forces are capturing one key point after another in the Burma front, forcing Britain to resort to the last measure of high-handed policy.

The action this time taken by Britain in illegally invading the Island of Madagascar is nothing more than a sheer piracy, but being placed at the end of the rope, Britain had no alternative but to risk the possibility of the Vichy officials turning their fleet to the Axis side and used this means of violence.

The invasion of Madagascar will undoubtedly prove disadvantageous not only to Britain alone but also to the United States as such an action will bind the Vichy Government closer with the Axis.

The Island of Madagascar is of course an important strategic point for Britain and this is the reason why Britain tried to place it under its control to safeguard the country's position, but highly unfavorable consequences will be the only reward for Britain.

FEW DANES UNEMPLOYED

To Allot Labor to Farms, Peat and Lignite Productions

Special

COPENHAGEN, May 2.—The number of Danish unemployed fell from 126,000 toward the end of March to 96,000 at the beginning of April, it was revealed here yesterday.

In view of the improvement in the labor situation, the main problem is distribution of men rather than securing jobs for the unemployed. Special attention is paid to alloting labor to farming and peat as well as to the lignite production.

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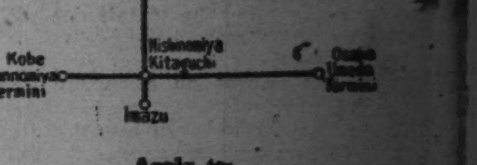

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70 CIVILIAN LEADERS SUPPORT TOJO PLAN

Pledge Full Cooperation for Establishment of Rule Aid Political Structure

FRANK DISCUSSIONS HELD

Premier Asserts General Election Manifested to World Stout Determination of People

Establishment of an Imperial Rule aid political structure in full cooperation with the Government for fulfilment of the War of Greater East Asia was pledged by the 70 persons representing various quarters at their meeting with Premier General Hideki Tojo and other Government officials Thursday afternoon at the Premier's official residence.

The pledge was made on behalf of the 70 representatives by Masatsune Ogura, president of the Wartime Finance Bank and former Finance Minister, after discussions which followed an impressive speech by Premier Tojo in which he stressed the fact that Japan is in need of national solidarity of political power for the establishment of an Imperial Rule aid political structure and solicited cooperation of the representatives whom he had invited to the meeting.

All Give Their Views

Unreserved opinions were unfolded at the meeting by Government officials and the 70 representatives. After the Government officials retired, the representatives with Mr. Ogura in the chair deliberated upon matters pertaining to the proposed organization of political power with the result that all agreed to establish a preparation committee for an Imperial Rule aid political power organization.

The Government officials who attended the day's function were Premier Tojo and all other Cabinet members and four chiefs of the Cabinet bureaus. Invited were General Nobuyuki Abe and 69 others representing the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, House of Peers, House of Representatives, leading newspapers, commercial, industrial, banking, and agricultural circles, and other quarters.

As a result of deliberation, all those who attended the meeting, except the Government authorities, adopted the following agreement to Premier Tojo's solicitude for expression of their creative will and efforts:

"Be it hereby resolved that we expect the establishment of an Imperial Rule aid political structure for the fulfilment of the War of Greater East Asia be realized and the ways and means devised of the organization of national political power."

Before the agreement was adopted, the 70 persons sat for deliberation, when Chairman Ogura asked how they would devise measures concretely to organize a political power in answer to the Government's request. Kotaro Sengoku president of the Central Union for Cooperative Societies and member of the House of Peers, pointing out the importance of such measures suggested it would be better to make all those invited members of the preparation committee for the purpose. Tadao Oasa, member of the House of Representatives, supported the move, and then at Mr. Oasa's suggestion, the meeting was named the Preparation Committee for Organization of the Imperial Rule Aid Political Power. Simultaneously, it was decided that its first meeting be held at 2 p.m. today at the Greater East Asia Hall.

Tojo Praises Election

The substance of the speech delivered by Premier Tojo follows:

"The general election just concluded was held under the strain of the War of Greater East Asia but the people in general thoroughly appreciated the significance of the election, and in spite of the various inconveniences unavoidable under wartime conditions, the ballots were cast in the brightest and most serious spirit.

"It is a matter for deep congratulation that the rate of abstention saw a record-breaking decline as compared with the previous occasions. Thus, the iron will of the Japanese subjects to prosecute the War of Greater East Asia to the bitter end was declared both to home and abroad.

"The fact that the general election was brought to a successful conclusion manifested to the world the stout determination of the Japanese people to win the current war, and simultaneously, added a silent pressure on America, Britain, and the Chungking administration, which, suffering defeat after defeat since the beginning of the hostilities, had been pinning their last ray of hope on perturbation of the internal structure of Japan.

"The successful result was brought about partly because of the political enthusiasm shown by the people, but on the other hand, the [illegible] efforts exerted by those who gave proper guidance in various circles indeed contributed a lot toward this end, for which I wish to express my hearty appreciation.

Must Expand War Results

"We must expand spectacular war results accomplished during the early stages of the hostilities and carry out positive operation, at the same time, striving for the task of construction in a comprehensive area which constitute the Greater East Asia. There has never been a time as the present which calls for the urgent and close collaboration between the Government and the civilian circles.

"The Government, on the occasion of the completion of the general election, ardently hopes that the people will solidify the unification of the whole nation and endeavor for the concentration of political power for the successful consummation of the War of Greater East Asia and for the establishment of the structure of Imperial Rule Assistance Politic. I feel confident that this is the most urgent question of the day.

"I trust that those who have been elected will 'bury the hatchet' so to speak and give a whole-hearted devotion for the construction of a new political structure in order to win this war. Only then will it be possible to bring into light the real significance of the general election.

"The reason for my inviting various people today from different circles was to exchange free and frank opinions relative to the method to be used for the concentration of political power. I only hope that each man, by carefully weighing the problem, will do his best for the establishment of a united front of the Japanese people."

ARMY PARATROOPS ACTION IS DESCRIBED

(Continued From Page 1)

he was hit by bullets and died a glorious death.,

Cut Down by Sword

"Another sergeant, meeting with a group of enemy troops, cut down two men in the vanguard of the enemy. A third had a narrow escape from death at the hands of the valiant sergeant.

"Lieutenant Oshiro was on the way to the airfield along with about 10 men in a motor truck.

"He saw six automobiles loaded with enemy troops coming in his direction. It happened that the country was undulating. He and his men shot one soldier after another as they came down the height. In a few moments they had accounted for 20 or 30 enemy troops.

"As he was about to lead a final charge against the enemy, Lieutenant Oshiro was hit by an enemy bullet which went through his abdomen. Bleeding from his wound, the gallant officer brought his men through an attack. When he saw that the enemy had been routed, he put wounded men under him into a moter vehicle.

"He himself continued advancing toward the airfield.

"Once again he encountered enemy troops advancing in a group of about 30. By this time all his troops had been disabled excepting the man on watch who now was driving the car with its load of wounded men.

"He ordered the driver to run his car against the enemy.

"The vehicle, with its load of wounded, sped on at a terrific speed.

Truck Dashes Into Enemy

"The vehicle dashed into the enemy troops. A teriffic struggle ensued. In this fighting, the officer was stunned and the man on watch died a glorious death.

"As night fell, a squall rose.

"The storm had an immediate effect on the stunned officer who regained consciousness. He continued advancing toward the airfield although he was severely wounded.

"He reached the field the following morning and was pleasantly surprised to learn that it had already fallen into Japanese hands.

"There were about 200 enemy troops in the neighborhood of the field, but there was no fight in them.

"The Japanese motioned them to come forward. Representatives of the enemy did come.

"Peace negotiations got under way. The Japanese demanded the enemy to surrender, but the parley did not progress because of the fact that both sides found it difficult to make themselves understood due to their imperfect knowledge of English, which was the language used by the negotiators.

"While the talk was going on, there were signs that the enemy troops were going to escape into jungle land.

"It was decided then that the enemy troops should be attacked, but by this time the enemy troops had made good their escape.

Air Field Occupied

"The Japanese completed the occupation of the air field at 7:20 p.m. after they had disposed of upward of 10 enemy troops.

"The late Captain Kamo, then a lieutenant landed at a point to the northwest of the air field.

"Promptly he became the target of terrific fire from the enemy's anti-aircraft guns. He decided to attack the enemy position.

"As he was marching through jungle land at the head of his troops, he suddenly found himself in front of an enemy anti-aircraft machine gun.

"With his revolver he lost no time in making a dash against the enemy position.

"As he came within five meters of the emplacement, he was hit by an enemy bullet and he too died a glorious death.

"The spirit displayed by Captain Kamo who was prompt to attack regardless of whether he was well armed or not is the spirit of volunteering to undertake a difficult task.

"The defense of the air field consisted of 13 anti-aircraft guns and five anti-aircraft machine guns.

"None of our planes were damaged. One of them developed trouble shortly after it had left the base, but this did not prevent it from continuing the flight. About an hour later it made a forced landing at a point to the northeast of the air field.

Barracks Fall

"Full of fighting spirit, we advanced until we succeeded in completely occupying the barracks and offices of the air field.

"This exploit of the parachutists helped to render the operations of an X corps extremely easy.

"The bravery of such heroes as Oshiro, Okumoto, and Kamo was a factor in the success of the swift operations conducted in jungle land. A contributing factor was the manner in which the commander of the unit directed the operations of this troops.

"As for the area in which the oil refineries were located, the place was extremely swampy. The neighborhood of the refineries was dotted with shrubs. At a place near the refineries one was flooded with water up to the breast. There was no means of communications unless one was willing to wade through the swamps. Bridges or near bridges were to be met with here and there.

"Palembang appeared to us a dirty city, although there were good roads in the neighborhood of the refineries. Some of them were surfaced with asphalt.

"One of the problems before us was how to capture the refineries without damaging these roads.

"At 11:20 a.m. we approached the neighborhood of the refineries. We looked down from the windows of our plane to see how we could safely descend.

Ready For Descent

"There was smoke, which was floating from south to north. The speed of the wind was from two to three meters per second. We concluded that conditions were favorable for our descent.

"As we approached the sky over the refineries, we were fired upon by more than 10 anti-aircraft guns.

"The plane occupied by Lieutenant Sudo was hit by an enemy bullet. He self-blasted his machine.

"Landing operations were commenced.

"I observed from my plane that all troops landed safely, avoiding the tanks of the refineries in the descent.

"The spot where I descended was a pool. I found myself up to my knees in water. Advancing to a road, I ordered about 10 men under me to fetch handy arms.

"As I was waiting, smoking a cigarette, Malayans came to me. They asked me to loan them rifles and machine guns.

"They explained that they would help us in our operations.

"I was extremely pleased with the fact that the native residents of the neighborhood had welcomed us with such enthusiasm.

"I told them: 'We are not in need of your help. Please go to the enemy and tell him that troops of a strength of 10 divisions has landed near the air field and another division of troops is at Palembang.'

Attack at 11:45 A.M.

"We commenced our attack on the refineries at 11:45 a.m.

"We destroyed the aerials of the enemy wireless tower. Presently we were fired on by the enemy, but he was soon silenced when we showered him with machine gun bullets.

"I ordered the men under me to capture the topping.

"Presently it fell into our hands. I saw to it that a Japanese flag was displayed atop the structure.

"The men who had captured the topping were chatting with Malayans as though they thought that the battle was over.

"I told them: 'The battle has yet to be fought. This is no time for us to be at play'.

"It was no easy task to display the Japanese flag at the topping. Sergeant Katsumata, along with 30 others, was about to ascend when he was wounded in five places. He expired the moment he had hoisted the flag.

"There was a dug-out at a point 50 meters south of the topping. I entered, and occupied it after it was cleared of the Malayans.

"The enemy troops were seen advancing amidst the tanks of the refineries. We could not fire for fear of hitting the tanks.

"We waited for an opportunity to fire.

"The enemy troops, too, seem undecided as to whether they should fire.

"The evening was drawing on. Then the enemy troops began advancing.

"The fighting began to be severe at 9 p.m. Enemy troops hurled hand grenades. We promptly replied.

"The enemy became silent at 3 a.m.

"We then went to investigate.

"I swam across a river. There was no sign of the main body of the enemy troops on the opposite bank.

"At 6 a.m. there was no sight of the enemy.

"We decided to hunt out the enemy and engage him in battle.

"We advanced, and at 8:40 a.m. we made sure of occupying the offices of the refineries.

"I wish to speak here about Sergeant Koshu Kamoshida.

"He was not heard of for two weeks. On February 23, as we were preparing to leave Palembang, a child of a Chinese chauffeur came to us and said that there was a Japanese soldier lying on the ground.

"Then the father of the child approached and started beating the ground with his hands. He was trying to tell us that the Japanese soldier was lying on the ground.

"I ordered him to tell the truth.

"According to his story, there was no other Japanese about him when he landed from his parachute. Then he encountered four or five enemy troops. He was fired upon. When he saw that he stood no chance, he shot himself to death with his revolver.

"Next, let me turn to the story of a battle fought in the neighborhood of the N.K.P.M. Company. The place being marshy, some of our soldiers reached the roads by swimming and others by ship through the courtesy extended by Malaysians

"Against the last parachutist descending, some 14 or 15 enemy guards started firing fiercely, but he landed calmly and composedly. No sooner had he landed than he shot to death with a pistol three of the enemy guards who happened to be just in front of him. Again five enemy soldiers attacked him, but they too were dispatched easily with a hand-grenade. Then the soldiers ran after the rest of their men fleeing to fire against him from a pill-box. None of their bullets hit him.

Unit Commander Killed

"The unit commander closed in on the enemy position as near as some 100 meters at 3:30 p.m., but he died a heroic death there, with a bullet piercing his head. The enemy position was captured by night attacks at 9 p.m. at the hands of the unit under another officer who had taken the place of the unit commander. The position, however, was blasted on the following morning by the enemy who resorted to a malicious plot.

"All the parachutists, as related above, fulfilled their duty completely and thoroughly with a firm determination that they would never die until their purpose had been accomplished. All were possessed with strong will. However, the success of the operations is attributable to those who instructed the men. We, parachutists, acted just as instructed. To those who see us from the ground, our work may be spectacular, but, in reality, it is contrary to the spectator's imagination. And I think our mental condition can never be understood. From a week or so previous every parachutist is required to prepare himself mentally for the coming descent.

"Some often say, you experience descending frequently and you are perhaps not afraid of it. Even the most experienced parachutist will dread landing by a parachute. When it is decided for to descend, he never fails to pray to gods from the previous night. With his plane taking off, his face turns pale and he is an obstinately close-tongued person because of an excessive fatigue of nerves.

"An indescribable feeling fills the minds of the parachutist troops during the descent, but once on land, the strange feeling immediately turns to an overwhelming joy as what anxiety they might have had completely disappears.

Used to Procedure

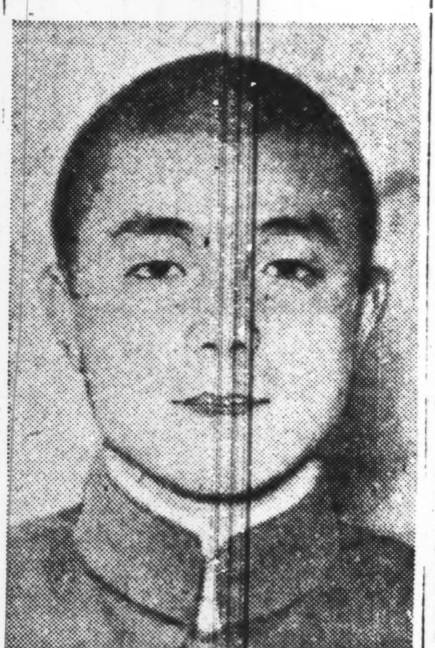
"As they undergo these experiences two or three times, however, they get used to the procedure and joy fills their minds immediately after the parachute opens following the bailing-out. Sometimes they suffer injuries in their legs as they land because they are liable to become careless.

"To the injured persons, I always warn them that they must be careful until they land, or rather, until they report after landing, and advise them to, exercise care until the very last moment. There are practically no chances of getting hurt so long as they follow instructions carefully.

"From my experiences, I see that the majority of the accidents occur only among those who are hesitant in making their decision to bail out. A strange thing, but those who are not so particular are the ones who usually make a successful landing, without involving themselves in any kind of an accident.

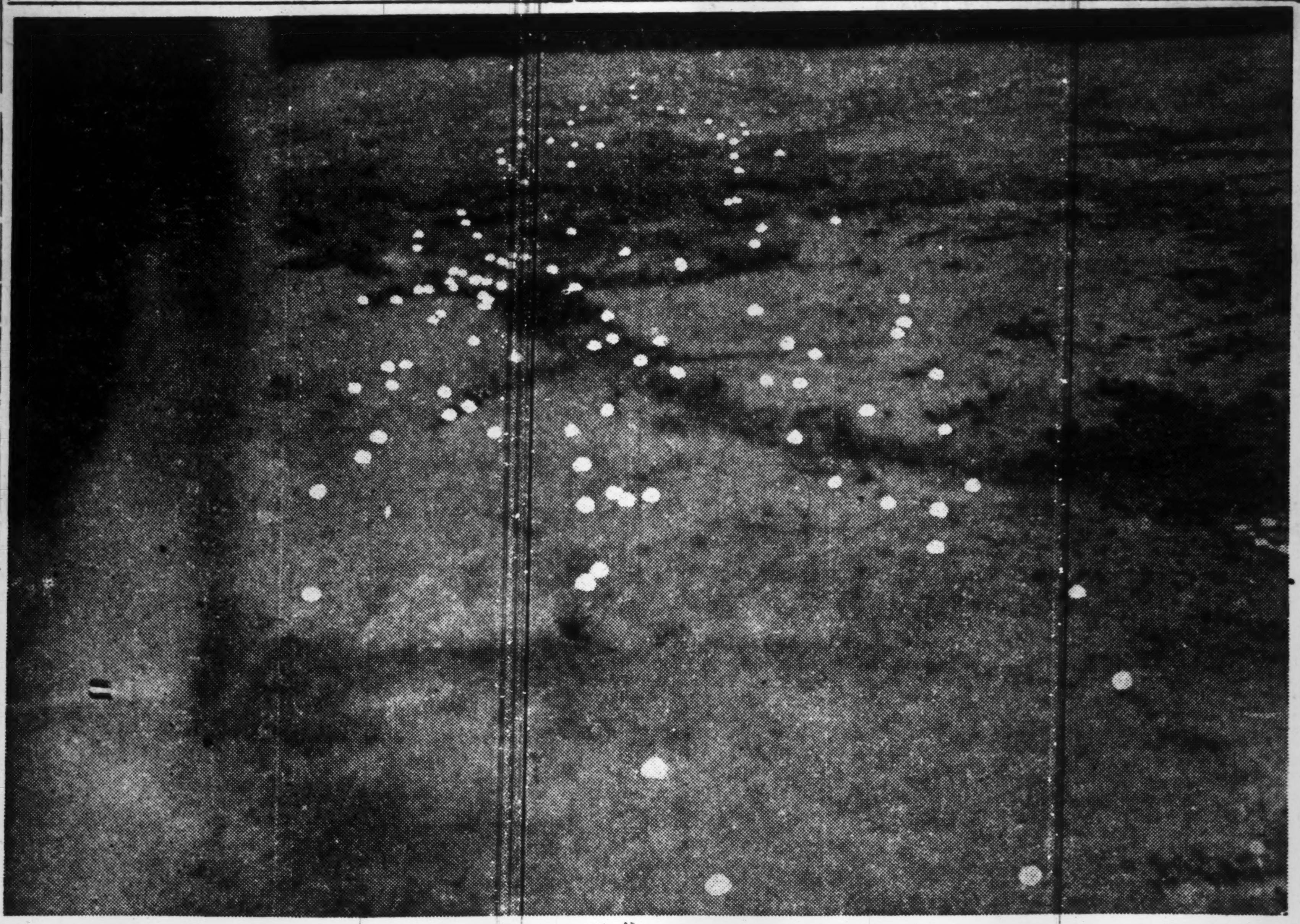
"When I related this opinion to a certain great man, he said in reply that life is like that; it is best for a man to know his own limits.

"One thing I want the people to know, however, and that is to understand thoroughly that the tasks of the parachutist troops are one of the most painful jobs. But we are more than willing to perform such difficulties and are only too glad to lay down our lives for the cause of the State. I am firmly convinced that it is our duty to develop a still better and more efficient parachute corps in future".



Lieutenant Tokunaga
(Censored by War Ministry)

How Paratroops Landed on Palembang



Like a rain of hail, intrepid Japanese paratroops descended on Palembang at 11 a.m. on February 14 and by the following day had completed their brilliant operations—operations which startled the world and paved the way for Japan's smashing successes in the Netherlands East Indies. (Photo presented by the War Ministry).

SPAIN SALVAGES SHIPS

Special

MADRID, May 2.—So far, 101 ships sunk during the Spanish Civil War by the Communist forces have been raised by the salvaging committee of the Spanish navy. The shipping space, thus, recovered amounts to 150,000 tons.

The last ship to be raised was the 2,520-ton steamer, Sac Five, which had been scuttled in the port of San Feliu de Guixols in the province of Gerona.

U.S. PERIODICAL ADMITS REICH AERIAL ADVANTAGE

Says Hitler in Four Years Has Done Marvelous Work With Aviation

Special

LISBON, May 2.—The United States aviation periodical, Flying, in its latest issue points out the great advantages Germany has over the United States in matters of aviation, with regard to commercial aviation and with regard to the interest in and understanding for flying among the population in general.

"We have missed the chance of explaining to the people that the vast space of air can be crossed in airplanes just as water can be crossed in boats," the periodical says. "Chancellor Adolf Hitler, through his National Socialist Aviation corps and other aviation organizations has within four years done more than we have in all the years since the pioneer flights of Kitty Kawl."

The periodical goes on to say that Germany in 1938 had 250,000 trained pilots and students of aviation, while the United States at that time had only 10,000 commercial planes and 23,000 qualified pilots.

Kobe Notes

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. R. Pfaffenberger, former residents of Kobe, in Peking on May 3. Both the mother, who was formerly Miss Alice Jungers, and child are reported to be doing well.

A rare treat for foreign residents in Kobe, in particular the Italian community, came in the form of the Italian comedy film, "Eravamo Sette Sorelle," which is currently being shown for the first time at the Shochiku-za in Shinkaichi.

"Eravamo Sette Sorelle" is the first new film to be featured in Kobe since more than a month ago.

The Italian film will be shown daily on the following schedule: At 12:57, 3:08, 5:19 and 7:30 p.m. Admission is ¥1.40 for "A" class and ¥.70 for "B" inclusive of tax.

Chiang Men for Australia

Domei

LISBON, May 6.—John Curtin, Australian Prime Minister today announced that at the request of the Chungking regime, the Australian Government has consented to the stationing in Australia of three Chungking liaison officers, according to a Reuters message received here from Canberra today.

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GRAND FUTURE SEEN FOR NEW EAST ASIA

Wang's Manchoukuo Visit Expected to Produce Wide Effects

While the visit to Manchoukuo of President Wang Ching-wei, of the National Government of China, seeks to strengthen further the solidarity of Japan, China and Manchoukuo as the pivotal nations in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, far-reaching influences giving impetus to the settlement of the China problems will be forthcoming, says Domei, quoting a Nanking dispatch to the Nichi Nichi.

The dispatch, according to the news agency, said discussions in the fields of politics, economies and diplomacy to be held between Premier Wang Ching-wei's commission and the Manchoukuo Government will solidify bonds between the two countries. Lu Jung-huan, Manchoukuoan Ambassador to Nanking, also will participate in the discussions, it was said.

Not only will this solidarity between Manchoukuo and China usher in a new epoch in the development of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, but this new union and the discussions to be held will constitute a political broadside against the Chungking regime, the report declared.

The report added that the peace movement of the Nanking Government, moreover, will be encouraged by this visit of Premier Wang to Manchoukuo for it will impart to the Chinese masses the strong bond among Japan, China and Manchoukuo.

Utilizing this opportunity, the Chinese masses must be convinced that only by the solidarity of the three countries can the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere be established, the Nichi Nichi report said.

FRANCE WILL OBSERVE TWO 'COLONIAL WEEKS'

Move Taken to Make People Colony Conscious—Lectures, Movies Scheduled

Special

VICHY, April 26.—Two "colonial weeks" will be observed in France in the second half of May which will be organized by Captain Guirre of the French Navy.

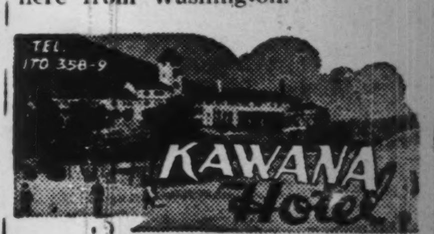
Captain Guirre was in command of the harbor police at Dunkirk when it fell, about which he has written a book.

During these "colonial weeks" the attention of the French people will be drawn to their colonies by a series of films and lectures. School children will be asked to write compositions on French colonies. On Whit Sunday school children will visit Toulon harbor. They will also visit Marseilles where they will spend several days aboard French merchantmen.

Norwegian Ship Sunk

Domei

VICHY, May 6.—The United States Navy Department today announced the sinking of a small Norwegian merchantman off the United States Atlantic coast, as a result of a torpedo attack, Havas reports here from Washington.



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YOKOHAMA GERMANS WIN THE INTERPORT

Make Clean Sweep in Hockey, Tennis and Handball Matches Played

Revealing brilliant form, German athletes in Kanto made a clean sweep of the Yokohama-Kobe interport sports meet held in Yokohama for three days from May 1.

The meet was divided into three sections; hockey, tennis and handball, the Kanto teams winning as follows: Hockey 3-2; Tennis 28 matches to 12, and Handball 8-5.

Coinciding with the German National Labor Day, the meet was a great success and nearly a thousand spectators, including the German Ambassador, General Eugen Ott, were on hand to witness the events. His Excellency showed great interest in the meet, the hockey game especially.

The first match was the hockey tilt which was perhaps the most closely contested of the interport. As in 1941, a single goal decided the issue. The count was 2-2 when time was called, thus necessitating an extra ten minutes of play. The deadlock continued right up to the final minute when the winning tally was registered by the home team.

The tennis matches were not completed as unfortunately it rained on Sunday, but the Kanto players dominated practically all the matches played, retaining a commanding 28 to 12 lead when the series was called off.

The handball encounter was another thriller and a huge crowd of spectators turned out to see the rival teams in action.

Handball, incidentally, has never been played between Yokohama and Kobe teams before and this factor added interest to the clash. Kobe was often in the lead and as the game progressed it seemed that the visitors would return triumphant, but an unexpected turn of events suddenly changed the situation and the younger players from Kansai had victory snatched away from them. Thus the Kaundynia Memorial Trophy, presented by the German Community of Kobe and Osaka, goes to the Kanto team.

After the games, various social functions, including tea, a reception at the German Club in Yokohama, and a cocktail party, were held.

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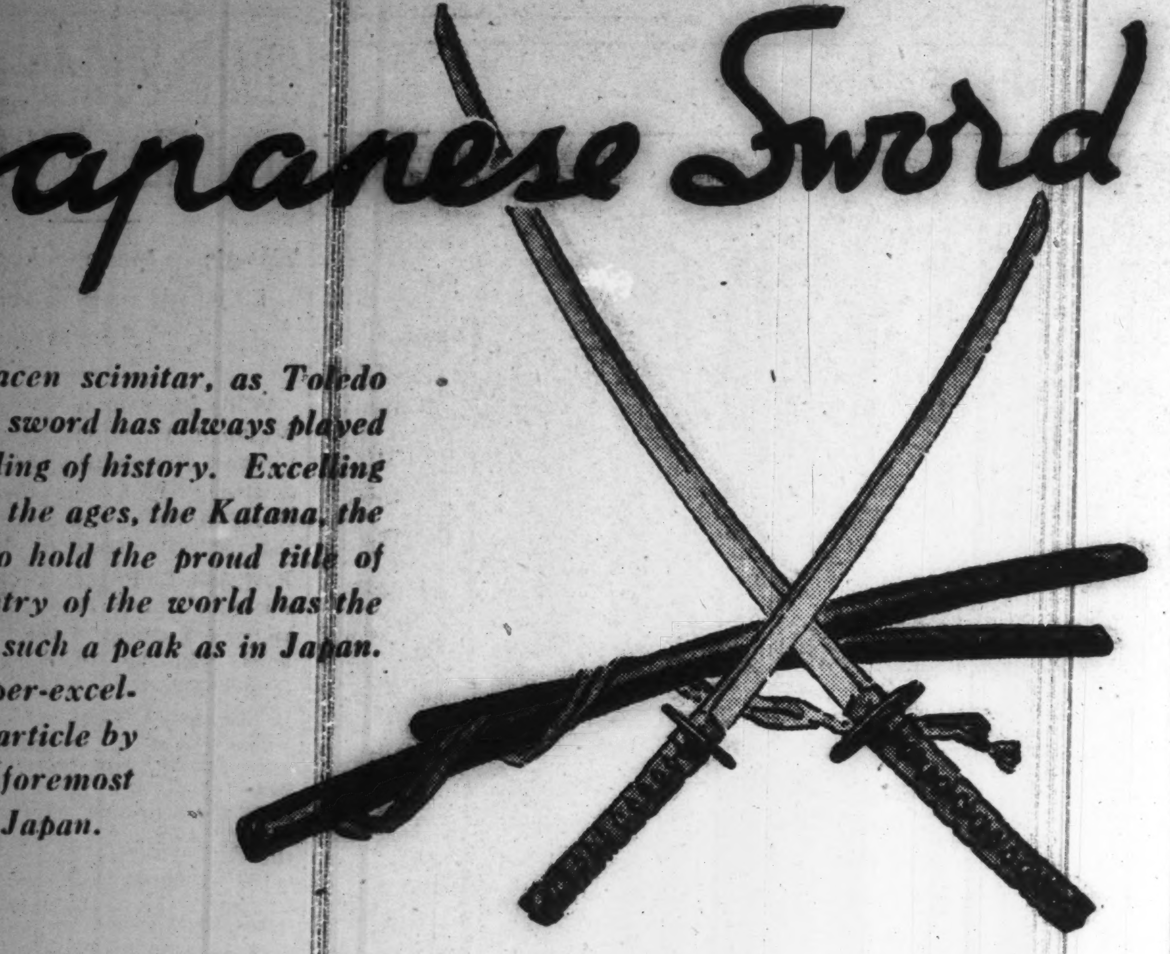
The Japanese Sword



As Crusader sword or Saracen scimitar, as Toledo rapier or Chinese cutlass, the sword has always played an important role in the molding of history. Excelling them all, and shining through the ages, the Katana, the Sword of Japan, continues to hold the proud title of King of Swords. In no country of the world has the art of sword-making reached such a peak as in Japan. What is the secret of its super-excellence? Read this engrossing article by Junji Homma, one of the foremost authorities on the subject in Japan.

The superb quality of the Japanese sword as a weapon has once again been verified in battles since the outbreak of the Pacific war. Its outstanding characteristic is its sharpness which is derived from the elaborate method of its making. As for this method, it will be mentioned later. With regard to the sharpness, however, many stories are current from ancient times.

To quote a few instances, Mitsunaka Minamoto, who had two excellent swords, ordered his men to behead a convict with one of them. It cut off his head together with his beard. Mitsunaka then ordered his men to decapitate another convict with the other sword. It not only severed the head, but cut deep into the knees with one stroke.

Hence, Mitsunaka called the former sword, "Highe-kiri" (Beard-cutter), and the latter, "Hiza-maru" (Knee-cutter). Norikuni Imagawa, the ancestor of the Imagawa family of Suruga, once cut an iron helmet into two with his sword, which had been made by swordsmith Kuniyoshi. He, therefore, called it, "Hachi-hachioh" (Eight and Eight King). The above two stories are found in Nan-Taibeiki.

When going on the expedition ordered by Hideyoshi Toyotomi to Korea, Josui Kuroda cut off the anchor of his vessel with a sword and put out to sea. This sword was henceforth called "Ikari-kiri" (Anchor-cutter). Though the maker's name was not on it, it was a Bizen sword. In our literature there are, indeed, a great many instances of swords having been named under some such circumstances.

Dutch Book

A number of missionaries and merchants came from abroad in the Oda and Toyotomi periods and in the beginning of the Tokugawa period. Based upon the observations made by them while they were in Japan, a Dutchman named Montanus wrote a book on the Japanese manners and customs of those days for the purpose of introducing them to Europe. In this book he describes the Japanese sword with wonder. A man, he said, cut a European sword with a Japanese one and found that he could cut it as easily as a reed. Yet the edge of the Japanese sword remained unbroken! This is an interesting instance of making known to Western people how cleanly the Japanese sword cuts.

The Japanese sword has other characteristic features. An excellent Japanese sword is defined as a sharp, unbroken and unbending one; and in addition to these practical conditions, it must have a lofty character and beauty. If we consider Japanese swords merely in point of sharpness, there will be little or no difference between the productions in the Heian period and those in the Muromachi period; but those which are prized and treasured as excellent swords are mostly restricted to the productions in the Heian and Kamakura periods.

Purity of Soul

In order to appreciate a sword, one must take into consideration some other points as well as its practical use. An excellent sword must have a high character. To infuse this important trait into it, it is necessary for the swordsmith to purify his soul and body. For this reason it is customary with every swordsmith to take a bath or perform ablutions before setting to work. On one side of his workshop there is a sacred altar, dedicated to the God of Forging; and the shop itself is kept clean and sacred by putting up shime (straw festoons) on all sides of it. Mitsukane, the swordsmith of Kyoto, it is said, confined himself for prayer in the Enryakuji Temple for a certain number of days. His purpose was, of course, to produce excellent, refined and sacred swords by so doing.

Next, it must be noticed that most Japanese swords have vague, wavy or ripply figures on the blades, of which we shall also speak later. These figures or designs are not of practical use, but derived from an aesthetic sense. The ground of a sword is blue-blackish; the blade is polished up until it is watery-white. This too is of no practical use, but designed from a sense of beauty.

In short, the spirit of the Japanese sword is a combination of strength, character and beauty. It is thought best to overawe the enemy without drawing it out. But if it is unsheathed at all, it will destroy any evil spirit that dares to challenge it. This is the most important message of the Japanese sword, which is a manifestation of our Bushido. It has a long history, too, which goes back to the pre-historic age. Down through the corridor of time it has remained intimately associated with Japanese life. Hence, its history can be classified as follows:

The Divine and Remote Ages

Japanese swords are well known to the world for the excellence of their unique originality. It was after the Heian period that they were perfected for the first time, but their origin can be traced back to the remote Age of Gods. If we refer to Kojiki and Nihon Shoki, we see that the Ame-no-Ohabari, the sword worn by Izanaghi-no-Mikoto, and the Orochi-aramasa, the sword with which Susanoh-no-Mikoto cut a huge serpent, were both excellent blades in the Age of Gods.

The most famous swordsmith in those days was Ameno-Mahitotsuno-Kami (alias, Amatsumara), who is looked upon as the ancestral God of Forging. He served as swordsmith for three generations extending from Amaterasu-Oh-Mikami to her grandson. Furthermore, his descendants served the Imperial Family generation after generation and handed down the art of forging swords to posterity.

Communications between our country and Korea had already been opened from the Age of Gods; and as for mining and metallurgy, Korea was somewhat the superior. So it is conjected that we must have learned something of the art from her. The sword Orochi-no-aramasa, which we have just mentioned, was also called "Orochi-no-karasabi." As the word "Kara" is the obsolete term for China or Korea, the sword may be thought to have come from the peninsula. Some time afterward in the reign of the Empress Jingo, a "Koma-tsurughi" (Koma sword) was sent her as a present. (Koma was, by the way, one of the three Han states which formed Korea at that time.) From this we learn that swords were occasionally brought from Korea to our country in those days.

Chinese Swords

Chinese swords, too, were brought to Japan in remote ages. This fact is shown by the following verse, which was composed by the Empress Suiko:

Uma naraba
Hyuga no koma;
Tachi naraba
Kure no masabi.
The Hyuga breed
For good horses;
Genuine Chinese blades
For good swords.

In those days Kure (Wu) meant that wide tract of land lying south of the Yangtze River and where excellent swords were produced in abundance. Chinese people at that time generally used copper swords, but it is known that iron swords were also used in Kure. Since it is a Japanese trait to endeavor to learn and assimilate the excellent points of other nations, it seems that the Japanese art of forging swords, which derives its main current from the Age of Gods, made the remarkable progress it did by absorbing the continental admirable features.

The above accounts, which are based on some old writings, are a short sketch of the origin and progress of Japanese swords in the divine and primitive ages. And it must be added that, compared with swords of later ages, primitive tachi (long swords) and katana (short swords) are remarkably flat and straight; and that the former (long swords) are remarkably long.

The Nara Period

The swords produced in the Nara period are mostly found among the treasures kept in the Shoh-soh-in repository of Nara. Some of them are kiribatsukuri in form a sword of this kind, though it is flat and straight in shape, is double-edged at the edge part. And this reminds us of the transitional stage of sword-forging, which enables us to presuppose the coming of the age of shinoghi-tsukuri (swords with ridges on the sides of their blades). These swords are more refined in appearance and are smaller than those of the preceding ages.

The fact that they became smaller in size, it seems to us, shows that the improvement in production made them sharper and that it was thought unnecessary to keep their weight heavy for effective use. This is readily seen by comparing the Japanese sword with the old Chinese halberd. The most famous swordsmith in the age we have just mentioned was Shinsoku of Bungo, but there is no excellent work of his extant. Some names of the Korean swordsmiths who lived in Japan at that time are known to us. They lived in Oh-mi, Harima, Tamba, Kii and Sanuki.

The Heian Period

The best known swordsmith in the beginning of the Heian period was Yasutsuna of Hoh-ki. Most of the swords which are handed down as being of his workmanship are genuine and excellent, and all of them are ridged and curved. The blades are well-proportioned and refined. It was not merely for the sake of appearance that flat and straight blades were changed for ridged and curved ones.

As cutting weapons, they were found to be more useful and, therefore, this development was not due to any theoretical discovery. But had it been due to any practical experience, it seems improbable that such a change in the shape and appearance of the sword could have occurred immediately after the capital's peaceful removal from Nara to Kyoto.

It is my opinion that in the beginning of the Heian period, swords were the same in shape and workmanship as in the Nara period. Accordingly, it seems to me that Yasutsuna must in fact have lived a little later than the age in which he is generally supposed to have flourished.

After the Middle Ages, the times gradually became disorderly and turbulent: the Rebellion of Tengyo, the War of Zenkunen and the War of Go-sannen followed in succession.

The consequence was that the demand for swords invariably arose and sword-makers appeared in various provinces; and the art of forging swords made striking progress. The straight swords which had generally been used until the preceding ages were now replaced by ridged and curved ones. It was probably in the Ghempei period (Minamoto and Taira period) that this new type of sword was generally used. Accordingly, if any general classification is to be made in the history of Japanese swords, it will be divided into the ages of straight swords and the ages of curved swords.

The most excellent of Japanese swords are found among the swords made in the ages of curved swords. In this period, Japanese swords were exported to China and thought highly of. This is known by some of the writings of Ou Yang-siu, the eminent savant of the Sung Dynasty. Among various historical records to the same effect, there is mention in a book that Kiyomori Taira made a present of a Japanese sword to Sung. Swordsmiths of that period are believed to have lived in Yamato, Yamashiro, Bizen, Bitchu, Hoh-ki, Mutsu and Satsuma.

Kamakura Period

Swordsmiths depended upon the rise and fall of military men. It was natural, therefore, that they played an active part in the Kamakura period, when militarism carried weight with the masses. In various provinces, excellent swordsmiths appeared one after another. Much of this was due to the efforts on the part of the Emperor Gotoba, who summoned master hands from various districts and ordered them consecutively to make swords. He himself is said to have handled a hammer.

Next, the development of sword-forging must be ascribed to the invasion of the Mongols. The art of sword-making, which had already reached its height in the beginning of this period, did not decline even after the middle of it, but rather, it may be said, increased in its steadiness because of the national unity to cope with further emergency. In a book on Japanese swords, which was published at the end of the Kamakura period, it is mentioned how beautifully the Japanese swords cut when the Mongolian troops were driven back. Speaking of Kunimasa of Yamato, the master swordsmith of the same province, the same book says: "A warrior fought with his Kunimasa sword and cut down about a hundred foemen, but the sword remained unbroken."

Swordsmiths now came to be found throughout the country, but the majority of them traditionally lived in Yamashiro, Yamato, Bizen and Bitchu. Formerly there had been no excellent swordsmiths in Kamakura, where Yoritomo established his government. But toward the beginning of this period, some good swordsmiths went there from Yamashiro and Bizen. There, they settled down and made many good swords, and Soh-shu (Sagami Province, where Kamakura is) became a newly-risen place for sword production. There, the famous Masamune appeared at the close of this period.

Yoshino Period

During this period, the art began to decline a little. Contrary to the fact that the swords produced in the preceding period are full of strength, elegance and beauty, those belonging to this period seem emphatically to have strength only in appearance. They look all grandiose and bloodthirsty. It was perhaps a reflex of the times that swords of this kind were in vogue. This trend began to appear at the end of the Kamakura period and suited the fancy of the military men of that time. As for the distribution of swordsmiths, it was nearly the same as that of the preceding period. Bizen was the most thriving province, while Mino was rising as a new sword-producing center.

Muromachi Period

If we consider in what age excellent swords were most produced, we shall find, contrary to our expectation, that it was in times of peace rather than in times of war when they were much in demand. The truth is that, as a natural result of battles, examinations were usually made as to what style or make of sword was most suitable or convenient, with the consequence that enough time was given to invent elaborate devices when peace was restored. The most proper instance was the Momoyama period. It was probably for this reason that more noteworthy works were produced in the Muromachi period than at the end of the preceding one. But the time soon came when great numbers of Japanese swords began to be exported to China.

Thus, careless and abundant productions gradually followed. During the period extending from Oh-yei to Temmon era (1394-1554), more than 100,000 swords are said to have been exported as trade-goods to China. Besides, the demand for swords suddenly increased after the Rebellion of Oh-nin, and the forging world enjoyed greater activity than in the Kamakura period. Coarse articles of the "ready-made" type naturally made their appearance.

Up to the preceding period, swords over two shaku (shaku approximates one foot) long had been called tachi (long swords). When a man wore a long sword, he hung it on his side with braids, the blade-edge downwards. And together with this, he wore a short sword under a shaku long. This was the custom of a military commander in the ages prior to the Muromachi period.

But this custom now changed: the long sword, which was then called uchi-gatana (attacking-sword), was worn with the blade-edge upward. And the short sword, which had hitherto been called koshi-gatana (waist-sword), was replaced by a waki-zashi (side-worn sword), which was a shaku and two or three sun (sun approximates one inch) long and had a similar sheath to that of the long sword.

A set of uchi-gatana and waki-zashi was called dai-shoh (large and small). It is a matter of regret that the beautiful curvature of the old long sword was gradually lost. Most of the excellent swordsmiths of those days lived traditionally in Bizen; and Mino, which had been rising as a sword-producing province since the preceding period, now grew more and more thriving.

The Momoyama and Yedo Periods

At the end of the ages of civil wars, which continued for more than a hundred years, Hideyoshi Toyotomi succeeded to the great achievements of Nobunaga Oda and unified the country. He established the class system and strictly prohibited persons except military men from wearing swords. Consequently, great numbers of swords were forfeited. The so-called "Hideyoshi's sword-hunting" resulted in the stoppage of coarse and excessive production, which we have mentioned in the foregoing. And the art of sword-making generally grew steady and excellent in the first stage of the Yedo period, and was in the most flourishing condition next to that of the Kamakura period.

The style of sword production in the early part of this period was partly the revival of the old styles which prevailed in Kyoto, Yamato and Bizen in the Kamakura period. Most of the swords were modelled upon the works of Masamune and Sadamune of Soh-shu (Sagami) and upon the works of the swordsmiths of Mino, but they were not mere imitations of them. In them are perceptible the individualities of each sword-maker; and like the other works of art in the Momoyama period, they look splendid

It was after the Keicho years (1596-1611), however, that this characteristic became conspicuous; and this continued up to the Meireki years (1655-57). Generally speaking, the swords made before the Keicho years are called ko-toh (old swords) while those forged after these years are called shin-toh (new swords).

One reason for this distinction is that the swords made after the Keicho years became narrower under the influence of the peace and luxury of the Tokugawa period and that special attention was paid to their external appearance. In former periods, swordsmiths had lived in different towns or districts; and this is another reason why the old swords must be distinguished from the new ones.

In the Tokugawa period, a number of new castle-towns sprang up, and there many swordsmiths assembled. As a result of this, they came to lose their provincial characteristics. Many of them left their old homes and settled down in such busy towns as Kyoto, Osaka and Yedo, while some moved to such big castle-towns as Fukui, Saga and Satsuma.

The Bakumatsu Period

The closing years of the Yedo period marked an age full of the spirit of restoration in politics, art and many other things. In the art of sword production, likewise, revivalism came to prevail. Many swords were produced after the style of old Bizen and Soh-shu ones. Most of the excellent swordsmiths congregated in Yedo.

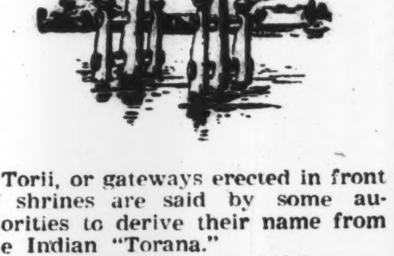
The Post Restoration Period

When the Meiji Restoration came, all people were forbidden by law to wear swords. Accordingly, the demand for new swords began to decrease, and it was feared that the art of sword production, of which Japan had so long been proud, would become extinct. Besides through their so-called civilized thought and poverty, the shizoku (those families which belonged to the military class in the pre-Restoration period) considered old swords to be useless things and only valued their external appurtenances.

It was very fortunate, however, that the Emperor Meiji paid great attention to the preservation of Japanese swords. Thus affection for swords was generally revived and the Chuo Tohken Kai (Central Sword Society) established. Furthermore, the Japanese Sword Forgery was recently founded; and the Education Department holds an annual exhibition of new swords. The result has been a nation-wide demand for newly-made swords.

The outbreak of the present war has further stimulated that demand. Lastly, when we consider the swords made in the post-Meiji era, we find that the spirit of restoring the styles of old swords has not been diminished and that the art of sword production is progressing in the right direction. We can, therefore, look forward to the appearance of some master hands, equally proficient in the art like the most distinguished swordsmiths of the past ages.

TORII



Torii, or gateways erected in front of shrines are said by some authorities to derive their name from the Indian "Torana."

It is, however, a doubtful assertion. It is generally supposed that the Torii were primarily gateposts to ancient dwelling houses, subsequently coming to be used to mark the sacred precincts of a shrine. Torii are made of wood, stone, bronze, and even of concrete, but cypress wood (Hinoki) predominates.

There are several types in Torii construction, such as the Kuroki Torii, built of rough unscraped trees, the Shimmei Torii, built of planed wood, the Kasuga Torii of painted wood, and the Ryobu Torii, which is elaborate in construction.

Professor Yone Noguchi says that whether the Torii be of stone, of wood or of bronze, it is merely a simple combination of four straight lines; but that as an artistic creation this symbolical gate has no rival in the world.

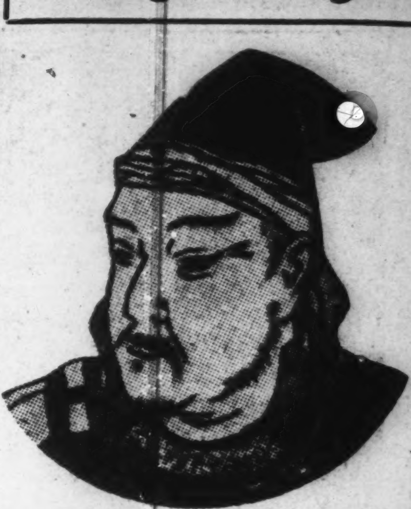
The Torii is a more familiar sight than the elaborate Buddhist gates, which are more like buildings. The Torii is found all over the countryside and stands out, not only for its outline but for its red color, against the green. The Torii leads into the temple yard, is sometimes multiplied into a succession of gates standing close together or at long intervals. It is seen at the foot of a hill leading up to stone steps, and often follows the road up through a valley to some hill-top shrine, or it may mark a sharp turn in the path. The piles of small stones on top have been thrown up for luck by people passing through its open portals.

Argentine Wheat for Spain

Special

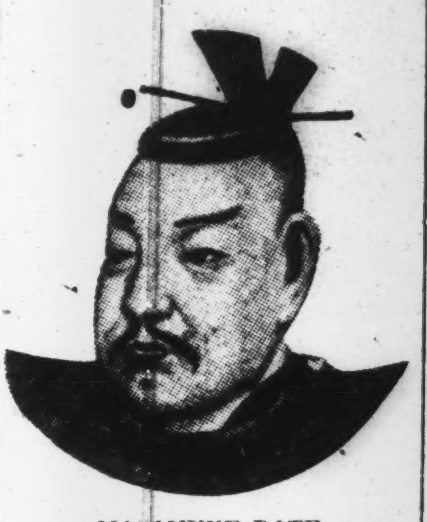
BUENOS AIRES, April 25.—Argentina will supply 40,000 tons of wheat to Spain, according to an announcement by the Argentine Finance Ministry last night. The arrangement was made with the Spanish Purchasing Committee at present in the Argentine capital. Spain is to pay 3,000,000 Argentine pesos for the wheat.

Voices That Ring Through The Ages



MASASHIGE KUSUNOKI
Famous Patriot, 1294-1336

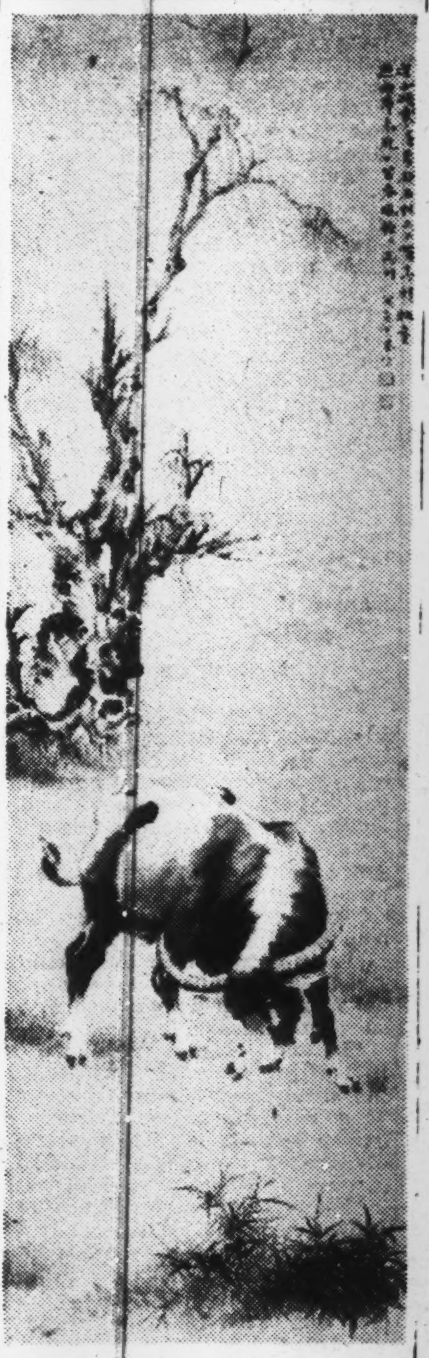
"If he who depends upon the soil of this country for his sustenance does not intend to serve the State, he is acting contrary to morality. Every piece of timber can be utilized for building, and any other thing on earth can be used in some way or other. Animals and inanimate things of nature can be made to serve for the cause of the State. Needless to say, man must serve the State by all and every means in his power."



MASAMUNE DATE
Famous Feudal Lord, 1567-1636

"With patience and a calm mind one should save money by economizing in every possible way. To economize is to put up with inconveniences. If one thinks of oneself as a guest of the world, there should be no inconvenience. Even if meals are plain, speak well of them in eating. One is a guest of this world and is not in a position to complain of plain foods."

BUFFALO



A simple but virile painting by a modern Chinese artist, Tsai Hsiang-lan. (Ueno Fine Arts Museum)

New French Order Set

Special

VICHY, April 26.—Introduction of an order of "legion of honor of work" is planned in France. This is to exist together with the order of the legion of honor. Memberships will be conferred on persons who have won merits in organizing work. There will be knights, officers and commanders.

India Bans Tire Sale

Special

BANGKOK, April 26.—The sale of automobile tires has been prohibited in India, according to the Delhi radio. The measure takes effect immediately.

Natural Beauty Seen In All Parts of Japan

(Continued from Page 6)

learnt from other sources regarding its vicissitudes before the 12th century. Several Emperors, the Ashikaga Shoguns, and the great daimyo of neighboring fiefs were accounted among the benefactors of the place. The temple of Miyajima enjoys great celebrity and the torii in front of it, which stands in the sea, is a favorite motif of Japanese art.

Ama-no-Hashidate has been famous throughout Japan from time immemorial and reckoned one of the great sights of the Empire. Situated on the Sea of Japan, northwest of Kyoto, it is a narrow sandy spit, which nearly closes up a lateral arm of the gulf at whose head Miyazu is situated. The lovely conifers, the beautiful stretches of water, the bays and hills, with higher mountains far in the background make up an enchanting scene best viewed from a neighboring height.

Loveliest Spot

Although not counted as one of the San-kei, Arashiyama, a picturesque gorge of the River Katsura, here called the Oigawa, and higher up the Hozugawa, situated near Kyoto, is regarded as one of the loveliest spots in all Japan. The hills are everywhere covered with pine-trees and there are plantations of cherry trees brought from Yoshino in the 13th century by the Emperor Kameyama, and of maple-trees, which add greatly to the natural beauty of the spot in spring and autumn.

Boating is a favorite pastime in the locality and the rafts seen on the river bring down timber from the Tamba district. The rapids commence a little below Hozu. The bed of the river is rocky enough, but the stream at its ordinary height is not particularly swift. The scenery is lovely beyond words, the river at once entering the hills which soon rise precipitously on either hand, and continuing its course between them for about 13 miles to Arashiyama.

CASH PAYMENTS REDUCED

Bulgarian Firms Must Issue Checks For Big Deals

Special

SOFIA, April 26.—In order not to further increase the circulation of bank notes and in order to avoid reductions of capital of banks, the Bulgarian Cabinet has decreed that all business firms must henceforth make payments of more than 900,000 lewa in checks. Payments in cash may be permitted if it is a matter of paying wages or payments for goods to producers.

Private citizens are not affected by this new ruling.

Radio Program

Subject to Change Without Notice
Regular Program (Weekdays)

NEWS: 6, 7 a.m.; 12, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 10 p.m.
TIME: 7 a.m.; 12, 7 and 10 p.m.
Radio Exercise: 6:20, 7:50 a.m.; 2:30 p.m.
Market Report: 11:30 a.m.; 4:30 p.m.
Music for workers: 2:30 p.m.
Program Announcement: 5:50 p.m.
Juvenile Hour: 10:00 a.m.

— Morning —

6:30 Morning Talk, by Sotaro Ishiwatari; Poem Recital; Recital of Patriotic Poem, "The Imperial Rescript Observance Day," by Announcer Wada.
7:20 "December 8, 1941 Impression" (Phonofilm); Selo Wind Music Band: "The Song of the Imperial Rescript Observance Day" (K. Tadanobu), selected by the I.R.A.A., and other music.
7:50 Radio Exercise for Schools.
8:00 National School Morning Ceremony Hour: Talk, by Fumio Goto, chairman of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association Council.
9:00 Wartime Housekeeping Hour: "My Visit to Shonanto," by Naosada Takahata; Music.
10:00 Juvenile Hour: "Kintaro, the Strong Boy," by Naoji Iwata and others.
11:00 National School 5th Class Hour: Talk, "Japan's Virtue."

— Afternoon —

12:00 Time; "Kimigayo"; "The Reading of the Imperial Rescript" (Phonofilm); "Observing the Imperial Rescript," by Premier General Hideki Tojo, (Phonofilm); The Imperial Rescript Observance Day National Chorus, by Japan Broadcasting Chorus, Nippon Chorus and All Attendants, Relayed From Hibiya Amphitheater: "Patriotic March," "Tekiwa Ikuman," "The Warship" and "Umi Yukaba." Music Accompaniment by Japan Broadcasting Wind Music Band.
1:00 Narration, "The Crane," by Announcer Motohashi.
1:30 New Life Hour: "The Reformed Life," by Heikichi Takeuchi.
2:00 National School 7th and 8th Class Hour: War Front Geography: "West New Guinea," by Tenji Okagawa.
2:30 Music and Radio Exercise for Workers.
4:00 National School Teachers' Hour: "The Imperial Rescript," by Mune-omi Umigo.

— Evening —

6:00 Children's Hour: News; Drama, "Tarozaemon Egawa, The Patriotic Scientist," by Minekichi Takasugi and others.
6:25 "The Records of Victories" with music accompaniment by Tokyo Broadcasting Orchestra; Music.
7:40 Radio Meeting Hour: Talk on "Healthy People," by Surgeon Lt. Gen. Dr. Chikahiko Koizumi, Welfare Minister; Talk, "National Air Defense," by Hisayoshi Muramatsu of The Imperial Rule Assistance Association.
8:00 Radio Drama: "The Greater East Asia at Dawn," by Den Ohinata, Hisako Yamane, Hideko Takemine, Masakatsu Yamada and other Toho Movie Stars.
9:00 News.
10:00 Time; Today's War Situation; news.

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According to the emergency postal regulations now in force, advertisements or replies to the same should accompany the nationality, name and address of the sender in Japanese.

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YOUNG Eurasian, speaking English and Japanese, seeks position here or abroad. Apply Box 633, Japan Times, Yokohama.

Help Wanted

WANTED an efficient maid by a foreign family. Permanent position. Apply to Box 147, Japan Times, Tokyo.

For Rent, Rural

LAKE Chuzenji. Japanese house, 3 rooms, completely furnished, including kitchen and dining ware, beds, beddings except bed sheets, yacht and Japanese boat. Apply Okadaya, Chuzenji, Nikko, or Haruko Kawase, 37 Kitahigakubo-cho, Azabu.

HAKONE Lake, well furnished bungalows and cottages for rent, 2 rooms to 6 rooms respectively, rent ¥150 to ¥500. For full particulars apply to Furuya Hotel, Hakonemachi.

Board and Lodging

TOKYO—Three furnished rooms, single or together, in foreign house, best location Nogizaka), from 1st of June. If desired, good meals available. Box 154, Japan Times, Tokyo.

Real Estate, Wanted

REAL estate bought, sold or administered Apply to Kurasawa Real Estate Agency, 126 Furuichi-cho, Kamata-ku, Tokyo. Tel. Kamata 3517.

WANTED to buy foreign style house of 9-12 rooms. Please apply Box 151, Japan Times, Tokyo.

Business Opportunity

EXPORT Jisseki (export record): If you want to sell or buy export Jisseki, please ask us as we have sellers or buyers and act as go-between. Write for confidential interview to Kurasawa Co. 126 Furuichi-cho, Kamata-ku, Tokyo. Tel. Kamata 3517.

Instruction

IF you want to learn Japanese, you had better learn it from me personally. First kindness, second responsibility. Try my course of teaching rather than those with business-like coolness. I'll be glad to visit you. Sentaro Yamamoto, No. 2-14, Hasunuma-cho, Kamata-ku, Tokyo.

Instruction Wanted

EXCHANGE lessons wanted by Japanese with Malayan, Japanese for Malayan using English. Box 153, Japan Times, Tokyo.

For Sale

NEW lady's white and blue shoes, size (American) 6½. Box 150, Japan Times, Tokyo.

Wanted to Buy

FOREIGN furniture, clothes, sewing machines, pianos, gramophones, carpets and refrigerators at very attractive prices. M. Sensui Shoten, 126, 3-chome, Motomachi, Yokohama, Tel. 2-2356.

PIANOS used, grand or upright, at attractive prices. No objection to slight damages. Please write to Box 564, Japan Times, Yokohama.

DOMESTIC and office furniture of all kinds especially carpets and rugs wanted by Yokohama architect and doctor for their new houses. Japanese official proceedings for disposal attended to for those leaving Japan. Box 632, Japan Times, Yokohama.

GOLF sets, binoculars, pianos, accordions, typewriters, electric refrigerators, washing machines, radios, furniture, safes, carpets, sewing machines. Matsumoto Shoten, 9 Agebacho, Ushigome-ku. Tel. Ushigome 34-3564.

PIANOS, electric refrigerators, furniture, carpets, safes, wanted at high prices. Especially attractive prices will be paid for pianos or electric refrigerators. Apply Shioda Shoten, 20, 2-chome, Kamidori, Shibuya-ku, or telephone to Aoyama 36-5837 and ask for Shioda.

PORTABLE typewriter, any make; Singer sewing machine; organ. Wanted in exchange for furs or by cash. Apply Semf. Tel. Omori 4200.

USED furniture bought at high prices. C. Matsushita, furniture merchant, No. 178, Motomachi 4-chome, Naka-ku, Yokohama. Tel. Honkyoku 2-4448.

Professional Notices

MEDICAL

HIBIYA-HOSPITAL. Surgery, skin and blood diseases. Director Dr. S. Fukase, M.D. English and German spoken. Hours: 9-11 a.m., 2-6 p.m. 3 minutes from Imperial Hotel and Shimbashi Station. Tel. 57-2890.

PROF. Dr. K. Nakajima, skin and blood disease specialist. English, French and German spoken. Hours: 9-12 a.m., 3-6 p.m., until noon on Sundays and holidays. 1 Ginza-nishi 5-chome, 2nd floor of Taya Store on street car line from Sukiyabashi, a few blocks from Imperial Hotel side entrance. Tel. 57-0315.

NANKOIN Sanatorium. Owned and supervised by Dr. K. Takata, Chigasaki, near Yokohama Railway Station. Located in a healthy situation, facing Sagami Bay, amidst beautiful scenery. Tel. Chigasaki No. 2.

DRS. Ogawa and Yoko Ishigami (Oculist and Optometrists). Eyes tested and glasses fitted. Office hours: 9-12 a.m. and 1-5 p.m. except Sundays and holidays. Room 351, 3rd floor, Marunouchi Bldg., opposite Tokyo station. Telephone Marunouchi 23-1625.

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MASSEUR and masseuse. Will call by appointment. Legation and embassy staff and prominent foreigners are listed among our patrons. Makimura Chiryo-sho, 23 Sakuragawa-cho, Shiba-ku, Tel. Shiba 43-3787.

General

FURNITURE

NEW and used furniture sold, bought or rented at reasonable prices. If you wish to dispose of your household effects please telephone Shiba 43-3108. Daimaru Furniture Store, No. 1 of 8 Banchi, 3-chome, Tamura-cho, Shiba-ku.

BRANCHES REOPENED BY YOKOHAMA SPECIE

To Aid Industrial Financing In Southern Regions Offices Resume Business

POLICY CHANGES FORESEEN

May Act as Auxiliary Agency Of Bank of Japan in Exchange Transactions

With the object of smoothing monetary transactions and industrial financing in the southern regions, the Yokohama Specie Bank reopened on May 1 branch offices in Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, Penang, Malacca and Seremban, all in Malaya, according to Domei. The news agency also reports that the chartered bank's branches in the East Indies including Batavia, Surabaya, Bandoeng and Semarang will also resume business on May 10.

Attaching much importance to the new action taken by the Yokohama Specie Bank, economic observers interpret it as showing the direction in which the chartered bank will proceed in the future to cope with the narrowing of its influence in domestic economy following the enlargement of the Bank of Japan.

For long years in the past, the Yokohama Specie Bank had controlled monetary transactions with foreign countries and the president of the bank used to affix his signature to contracts concerning foreign exchange and currency transactions with foreign countries as representative of Japanese bankers. Foreign trade financing had also been one of the most important businesses of the bank.

Turning Point in Bank History

The Yokohama Specie Bank is today at a significant turning point such as it has never seen since its establishment in 1880 because the greater part of its businesses has been transferred to the Bank of Japan in accordance with the Revised Bank of Japan Law. Under the new set-up, the Bank of Japan will act as the central bank of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere and conclude the contracts of monetary transactions with the issuing banks which have been or will be established in each of the Co-Prosperity Sphere countries. Hereafter, bills of exchange issued by these central banks in Asiatic countries will be cleared through the Bank of Japan.

There is no possibility for the Yokohama Specie Bank to resume its brilliant activities even after the settlement of the current World War, predicts the Yomiuri. Although the chartered bank is expected to act as an auxiliary agency of the Bank of Japan in foreign exchange transactions, the most efficient way which the Yokohama Specie Bank can take to cope with the present situation is the monopoly of the foreign trade financings in the southern regions. Toshikata Ohkubo, president of the Yokohama Specie Bank, and his lieutenants are understood to be focusing their attention on this matter, but there are many problems which should be solved before the realization of this scheme.

Experts Needed

First of all, the Yokohama Specie Bank needs more capable experts in order to advance to the southern regions. As an emergency measure to solve this problem, the mobilization of idle experts in commercial banks is reportedly being considered by Mr. Ohkubo. This plan, when realized, will mark the radical change of the personnel administration of the bank, because it had hitherto adhered to the prevention of commercial bankers from entering the bank.

Second problem confronting the Yokohama Specie Bank is the possible competition in southern financing with other chartered banks including the Bank of Taiwan and the Bank of Chosen, which are planning to create additional branch offices in the southwestern Pacific areas. The relation with the Southern Development Bank, a semi-governmental banking institution to facilitate the development undertakings in the south should be adjusted, asserts the Yomiuri. The third and the most important problem is the renovation of the personnel administration. Governors of almost all chartered banks are appointed by the Finance Minister at his own will, but the president of the Yokohama Specie Bank alone is elected at the general meeting of the shareholders. This special system is understood to have handicapped the activities of the bank to a considerable extent. The revision of the appointment system of president and other officers is also necessary to enable the bank to make redoubled efforts to cooperate in the carrying out of the national policies regarding the foreign trade and foreign exchange as well as the monetary transactions in the southern regions, points out the paper.

Suited for Sugar Raising

The climate of Manchoukuo is suited for the cultivation of beet-root but not for sugar cane. The cultivation of beet-root was started in 1906 or 1907. The manufacture of sugar from beet-root was initiated in 1909 when a sugar mill was established at Ashiho. Since then no small number of sugar mills have been set up in both North and South Manchoukuo. Sugar production is showing a significant expansion.

Bombay Big Cotton Area

The great cotton areas of India are in Bombay and the Central Provinces: the total acreage being now over 18,000,000. The export of raw cotton in 1925-26 was close to 750,000 tons: but the figure for cotton twist and yarn has fallen grievously in recent years, mainly owing to the activity of Japan.

Much is being done to improve the staple: and an Indian Cotton Committee has been established, which is financed by a small cess on the output. It has taken measures for the control of cotton gins and the transport of cotton, in order to prevent adulteration and the intermixture of inferior varieties.

The total crop of Indian (including the States) cotton has reached 6,000,000 bales of 400 pounds as compared with a pre-World War I quinquennial average of 4,000,000 bales: Japan and China readily swallowing the excess.

BULLISH TREND FELT ON STOCK EXCHANGE

Morning Session Less Brisk Due to Profit-Taking Followed by Upward Swing

The atmosphere of the Tokyo Stock Exchange greatly improved in the afternoon, although in the morning session, generally speaking, transactions in munitions wares were less brisk than expected owing to the profit-taking operations. There was no special factor responsible for the upward curve in the afternoon session.

Tokyo Exchange, new, for example, opened at a low of ¥191.30 in the morning session of the short-term market, but before long there appeared a strong bullish feeling on the floor and a high of ¥193.20 was marked at the end of the afternoon session. A similar tendency was seen in N.Y.K. new, Kanegafuchi Spinning, new and Teikoku Rayon, new, but a calm situation pervaded N.Y.K., old, Kanegafuchi Spinning, old, Japan Steel Tubing, Japan Oil and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

Some of heavy industries made a slight advance in the long-term section. Mitsubishi Heavy Industries stepped up ¥0.50, Kobe Steel Works ¥0.20, Kokura Steel Works ¥0.20, its new ¥0.40, and Tekkosha ¥0.20.

Afternoon closing prices of key wares in the short-term market are as follows: N.Y.K. new, ¥89.80, Kanegafuchi Spinning ¥154.80, its new ¥98.80, Teikoku Rayon, new, ¥90.90, and S.M.R. ¥71.50.

Long-Term Market

Long-term market prices in yesterday's afternoon session were:

First Section

	Clos.		June	July
Fuji Spinning (50)		d .4		65.7
Do. new (25)				37.5
Kanegafuchi Spin (50)	155.9			
Do. new (25)	99.4	d .1	99.4	99.9
Tokyo Rayon (50)	40.9	u .1		40.9
Toyo Rayon, new (50)			73.6	
Second Section				
N. Y. K. (50)	104.8			105.9
Do. new (37½)	90.2	d .2		91.2
O. S. K. (50)				85.8
Do. new (37½)	95.6	d .3		
Ishikawajima S.B. (50)	83.8	d .5		83.9
Do. new (25)	55.2	d .5	55.1	55.5
Uraga Dock (50)	97.9	d .7	98.3	99.6
Mitsubishi Heavy (50)	109.0	u .5	81.8	82.5
Hitachi Works (50)	75.2	d .7	75.6	76.1
S. M. R. (50)	71.9			
Japan Automobile Ind.	75.5	d .4	76.0	76.9
Ikegai Automobile In.	69.3	d .4	68.6	69.2
Japan Nickel	50.4	d .1	50.3	51.0
Kotobuki Heavy Ind.	63.4	d .3	63.9	64.9
Japan Piston Ring		d .5	79.6	79.5
Japan Carbon	89.3	u .3	88.8	98.8
Japan Fat	69.0	d .2	67.6	68.5
Do. new (25)	38.1	d .9	37.7	38.1

Government Bonds

Government bonds spot prices yesterday afternoon were:

Kogo 5%	107.10	107.10	107.10	107.10
Second 5%	107.05	107.05	107.05	107.05
First 4%	102.95	102.95	102.95	102.95

Short-Term Market

Short-term prices yesterday afternoon were:

	Open.	High	Low	Clos.
Tokyo Stock. new	132.1	132.8	132.1	133.2
N. Y. K. old		104.5	104.0	...
N. Y. K., new	89.6	89.8	89.6	89.8
Kanegafuchi Spin.	154.8	155.0	-54.8	154.8
Do. new	98.5	99.0	98.5	98.8
Teikoku Rayon, n.	90.8	91.2	90.8	90.9
Osaka Stock. new	72.0	72.4	72.0	...
Japan Steel Tube	74.9	75.2	74.9	75.0
Japan Oil	78.0	78.4	78.0	78.4
S. M. Railway	71.4	71.5	71.5	71.5
Mitsubishi Heavy	108.4	108.5	108.5	108.6
Hitachi Works	75.2	75.2	75.1	75.1
Japan Mining	59.8	59.8	59.8	59 8
Manchurian Inds.	60.1	60.1	60.0	60.1

Dominant Economy of India

Agriculture is the dominant feature in the economics of India. According to a recent report, close to three-fourths of the total population derive their being from occupations connected with the land while no other single industry supports as many as 3 per cent of the inhabitants.

The fertility of the land, except where it is protected by irrigation, largely depends on the adequacy and timeliness of the monsoon rains. Should they fail, vast areas remain unsown or yield no harvest: masses of people, chiefly agricultural laborers and petty cultivators, are thrown out of employment; and their inability to get food, or to buy it when as now it is brought to their doors, constitutes the heart-rending calamity, an Indian famine.

The second powerful force which affects the economic situation in India is the constant demand of the outer world for her raw produce, coupled with her own industrial weakness in converting that produce into manufactured articles. From earliest times India was noted for her spices, her precious stones and her delicate textiles: in return she imported gold and silver in untold quantities and absorbed them.

Spices no longer are a necessity in western diet; the diamond-mines of Golconda have been worked out; and the famous Cashmeres and muslims have been ousted, like cottage industries everywhere, by loom-made substitutes. Today what the outer world clamors for is the surplus wheat, rice, cotton, jute, oilseeds and hides: and what it gives India in exchange is manufactured cotton (piece goods) and yarn, metals and machinery, sugar and oil.

SILK SPOT MARKET HAS BRISK SESSION

Research Pushed for Use of Mulberry Barks as Textile Material

The raw silk spot market brisked up last week with a keener and greater demand from the interior, and more than 1,000 bales were turned over daily at prices supported or a little higher. At the week end, white 13/15 deniers, grade D stood at ¥1,520, white 20/22 deniers, grade A at ¥1,500, and yellow 20/22 deniers, grade A at ¥1,442.50.

Export silk ran shorter and sold at an advance, and the demand was filled mainly by home use silk. The futures market slackened off at first, but business improved afterwards, spurred by the activity of the spot business, although it was still confined to the nearby deliveries, which appreciated daily, until the May position closed at ¥15.37.

The total re-shipments to the interior during April were 959 bales above the figure for March and reached 16,792½ bales from Yokohama and Kobe, according to the returns of the Kumiai (the Yokohama Raw Silk Merchants' Guild), and as the month's total arrivals were only 22,762 bales, a decrease of 1,478 bales from March, the stocks brought over to May fell off 3,178½ bales from the carry-over to April, with a total of 30,165½ bales, showing a more bullish supply and demand position than in April.

In Shinshu, reeling for the spring season will be over on May 11, which is earlier than usual owing to the using up of cocoons up to the quota. This is diminishing arrivals more and more, making the future supply and demand relation all the more satisfactory than at present.

Frozen Export Silk Sold

On May 1, 710 bales of frozen export silk were sold by tender in Yokohama with the favorable result that the average prices bid were considerably higher than the reserved prices and the traders were nearly entirely sold out. The second sale will be made at an early date. The highest price bid was ¥1,516.62 for white 13/15 deniers, grade D, ¥1,473.77 for white 20/22 deniers, grade C, and ¥1,428.60 for yellow 20/22 deniers, grade D.

About 15,000 piculs of Chinese cocoons seem to have been imported by the Sanshi Tosei Kaisha as material for short silk fiber under a contract with the Kachu Sanshi Kaisha in China, according to a report, the total quantity of cocoons exportable this year to Japan by the same Chinese firm being estimated at about 80,000 piculs.

In its article on the raw silk industry in Japan in the recent Official Weekly, the Agriculture and Forestry Ministry states that cocoons must be utilized to the utmost degree by some means or other; for if we are contented as hitherto with their use simply as material for raw silk, they might receive a threat to their safety some day from their rivals such as raw cotton and wool.

Silk-Wool's Future Rosy

The production of a short silk fiber from cocoons has been industrialized as a result of studies given in the official and private circles, and it has great prospects before it. Another thing, the future of which is similarly rosy, is long silk fibers which is like raw silk in appearance. That is called "kemmokiito" (silk-wool raw silk).

These two fibers must be made to occupy the place which is held by raw, silk, far from being substitutes in existence during the wartime, for which the Government is carrying on studies by the cooperative efforts of the people. After the full use of fiber contained in cocoons amounting to 80,000,000 kwamme, there will be 15,000,000 kwamme of dried pupas left, containing 4,500,000 kwamme of eatable oil and 10,000,000 kwamme of alubmen, continues the official remarks, and technical methods of their extraction and deordorization have been almost perfected and are steadily on for industrialization. Silkworm pupas contain vitamin B in very large proportions and its extraction has been successful. A medicinal study of them is progressing, too, and much hopes are put in its result.

Mulberry barks, which hitherto were used as fuel by farmers, have newly appeared on the stage as textile material, except a small part consumed for paper making. The recent shortage of fibers has stimulated and promoted, however, intensive research of them, as a result of which they have made their appearance as an important spinning material.

If the raw silk industry is conducted with the fundamental idea that the object of cocoon production is not only to get silk but to obtain food, and if more technical management is introduced into the new direction, it would brighten its future much more than at present, concludes the official article.

Savings Drive

With a view to pushing up the total of national savings, the National Savings Encouragement Bureau of the Finance Ministry has decided to launch a drive for greater savings on the part of the populace.

During June 19 to June 25, the Bureau will carry out a national savings drive which will be known as the "¥23,100,000,000 Savings Week."

Britain's Far-Flung Colonies Prove Hindrance as Need of Ships too Great

Declaring that the shipping industry is one of the greatest sources of wealth of a nation, and pointing out that Britain had prospered due to the growth of her shipping industry over her far-flung colonies in the seven seas, Shoichi Sumita, managing director of the Kokusai Steamship Company, in the latest issue of the Economist, asserts that sea transportation is one of the greatest missions that has been imposed upon Japan since the founding of the Empire. Mr. Sumita predicts a bright future for the shipping industry of Japan, consequent upon the glorious victories of Japan in the War of Greater East Asia.

The writer says,

"Ever since the founding of the Japanese Empire, it consisted of several islands, and, according to the 'Kojiki' or the Ancient Chronicle, God Izanagi-no-mikoto founded the Island Empire standing on a 'Floating Bridge of Heaven.' The 'Floating Bridge of Heaven' really meant a vessel, and a deep meaning lies behind the fact that the author of the Kojiki did not write merely 'vessel' but 'Floating Bridge of Heaven.' In order to maintain communications among the various islands which comprise the Empire of Japan it was necessary to have ships plying between them, and these vessels served to bridge the various islands. This 'Floating Bridge of Heaven' has been gradually broadened and extended to Chosen and the Chinese Continent and is now being further extended to the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

Britain Dependent on Colonies

"Natural resources are scarce in the British Isles, and for this reason Britain had followed the policy of seeking materials in her far-flung colonies, which led to the growth of her shipbuilding industry. Progress in shipbuilding industry simultaneously brought about a large revenue in shipping charges to Britain, which surpasses all imagination, and this, coupled with the consequent huge profits in foreign trade, served to build up the wealth of the British nation. After all, the fact that the British colonies were located at great distances proved to be a blessing to the British Empire.

"However, times have changed," Mr. Sumita continues. "In the current War of Greater East Asia, as in the last Great War, the fact that British colonies are scattered over distant seas is now endangering Britain. Soon after the outbreak of the European War Britain divided her colonies into several blocs and formulated a plan to import necessary war materials from these blocs of colonies, including Canada, India, Australia and Africa, in her own vessels and those chartered from foreign countries.

Distance an Obstacle

"However, with the progress of the European War, scarcity of transports began to be keenly felt, and to make matters worse, owing to the activities of German submarines and Luftwaffe, losses in Britain vessels began to mount up, proving the distance of colonies to be a great disadvantage. If the colonies are situated nearer a lesser number of ships are required, but in the case of Britain, she is now placed in the dilemma of being unable to import materials from her colonies, unless she has ships of bigger tonnage than 10,000 each. Furthermore, in view of the fact that a number of British ships are being sunk by Japanese submarines in the Orient, she is now compelled to take into account further losses in this direction. And the fact of the matter is that Britain is now on the verge of collapse from the viewpoint of her shipping industry.

"Hundreds of thousands of years ago mammoths were living in plenty on the earth, but they are said to have perished because they could not get enough food to support their huge bodies. Their own colossusness proved fatal, and the present fate of Britain may be well likened to that of this huge animal.

Ships as Floating Bridges

"A review of the map of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere reveals that there are thousands of large and small islands within the area, and the role of 'floating bridges' to link them is becoming constantly greater and greater, because it is only by constructing these floating bridges that a free interchange of materials and commodities can be expected within the co-prosperity orbit, and the prosperity of the inhabitants attained. The construction of the floating bridges is, therefore, the prerequisite of the construction of the proposed new order in East Asia.

"Of all things, the construction of bridges between myriad islands of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere is the most urgent of all urgencies under the prevailing conditions, more especially so as one takes into consideration the ups and downs in the efficiency of placement of vessels with the progress of the current war. For this reason, one cannot correctly base present needs on past statistics in estimating the necessary amount of tonnage required to cover the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, especially as Japan will be called upon to extend her shipping activities to the world when peace is restored.

Ships to Suppress Britain

"In the past Britain held supremacy over the seven seas armed with over 20,000,000 tons of ships, and in order for Japan to bridge the numerous islands within the co-prosperity sphere this amount of tonnage should be the minimum, and to have a merchant fleet of 20,000,000 tons will be the shortest cut to bring Britain to her knees. In a way, a modern war is as much a shipping war as it is a naval war. We excel Britain in our seamen, the technic of navigation, shipping industry. What we are behind Britain in is the number of ships, and if we get the better of Britain in the numerical strength of ships, Britain will lose all hope of victory in the shipping industry, and for this we must have at least 20,000,000 tons of ships. That is the minimum, and the construction work must be sped up at all costs.

"However, the construction of 20,000,000 tons of vessels is uphill work, and national effort must be expended for this. Already the Government has decided upon standardization of the type of ships to be built, increased financial aid, rationalized distribution of materials and labor, and fair progress is being made in the construction of vessels, but more and more efforts must be expended.

Ships of Greatest Importance

"Some people seem to be laboring under the misapprehension that, although at present there is a scarcity of vessels, there will be an excess of ships after the war is over if we build a large number of ships now. But, this apprehension is predicated upon the idea of profit incentive and liberal economy, as well as a free shipping market. Things would be quite different under a planned and controlled economy.

"In short, the construction of ships has been one of the greatest missions of the Japanese Empire since its founding and at present is immensely essential for the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. Under the prevailing situation, the construction of more ships is one of the most important problems facing the nation and must be achieved at all costs," the managing director of Kokusai Steamship Company emphasizes.

ENGLAND EXPENDITURES ARE INCREASING RAPIDLY

Deficit in National Balance Sheet Seen Going Up Since Outbreak of War

Proving the economic difficulties confronting England, the deficit in the national balance sheet of the country has been increasing at an accelerated tempo, especially since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, it is reported from Lisbon.

In the 1939-40 fiscal year, the national income of England totaled £5,058,000,000, of which £3,997,000,000 was appropriated for the living expenses of the people and £839,000,000 for the Government's spendings and the remaining £22,000,000 was accumulated as savings. In the next fiscal year, the national income increased to £6,454,000,000, but the living costs and the Government's expenditures swelled at a more remarkable extent. The deficit in the national balance sheet amounted to £939,000,000 in the 1940-1 fiscal year and the figure rose to £1,350,000,000 in the 1941-2, fiscal year.

Following are the tax revenues of the British Government for the last two fiscal years: (In £1,000,000.)

	1940-1	1941-2
Income taxes	524	770
Excess profit taxes	96	269
Customs duties	305	378
Sale taxes	224	326
Others	1,311	331

Bill Clearings

May 7
(In ¥1,000)

	Tokyo	Osaka
Bills Cleared	255,083	188,869
Balance	42,057	18,364

PLAN PUSHED TO READJUST SILK-REELING FACTORIES

Control Company Expected to Buy Yarns Actively With New Sericultural Year

With the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the move for adjustment of silk-reeling mills has stepped into a high gear in conformity with the schedule drafted by the parties concerned, according to the Chugai Shogyo Shimpo of May 7. As a matter of fact, the adjustment of silk-reeling mills' equipment, such as basins and looms, has been completed, according to the schedule during the past few months.

Those interested in this matter yesterday held a meeting at the Sanshi Kaikan where they exchanged their observations about the latest state of the mills they had inspected.

During the period beginning last June and ending March, the Nationwide Silk-yarn Federation bought up 1,790,292 kan of homespun yarn and filatures combined, amounting in value to ¥130,936,792, for the account of the Japan Silkyarn Control Co., adds the Chugai Shogyo. During the same period, the Federation sold 1,785,142 kan of yarn, amounting in value to ¥153,244,662.

It is expected that the Japan Silk-yarn Control Co. will start their activities in the purchase and sale of silk-yarn, following the completion of their organization with the arrival of the new sericultural year.

INFLATION CHECKED BY AID OF INDUSTRIES

In Cooperation With Government Private Company Profits Show Drop

Reflecting the increasing cooperation of business and industrial companies with the Government in a drive to check the dangers of inflation, the average profit rate of 1,454 leading companies throughout Japan in the second half of 1941 ending in February this year stood at only 13.1 per cent, representing a marginal drop of 0.3 per cent as compared with the 13.4 per cent for the first half of the same year, the Industrial Bank of Japan reported Tuesday, according to Domei.

Of 20 industries surveyed by the Industrial Bank, five industries netted increased profits while the remaining 15 industries reported smaller profit rates as compared with the preceding half year, the bank report revealed.

Shipbuilding Profit Big

Shipbuilding showed the largest profit increase, jumping by 1.4 per cent from 13.1 per cent in the first half of 1941 to 14.5 per cent.

Warehousing rose from 12.8 per cent to 13.9 per cent, sugar gained 1.0 per cent rising to 19.5 per cent from 18.5 per cent, fishery climbed from 16.0 per cent to 16.6 per cent, while ordinary banks advanced to 16.8 per cent from 16.2 per cent, the bank survey disclosed.

Details follow:

Profit Rates of Companies

Industries	1941 2nd half	1941 1st half	1940 2nd half
	(In percentages)		
Power	8.5	8.3	8.2
Railways	8.5	9.3	9.1
Shipping	22.8	25.3	25.2
Spinning	22.9	25.6	24.0
Rayon & staple fiber	11.7	12.4	12.3
Mining	9.1	10.1	12.8
Ceramics	14.5	16.1	17.8
Cement	8.9	10.4	10.8
Chemical Ind.	8.9	5.7	12.7
Metals	12.8	13.2	13.6
Iron and steel	10.4	13.2	14.1
Machinery and Tools	15.2	18.5	21.5
Shipbuilding	14.5	13.1	12.1
Rubber	13.1	15.7	15.3
Flour	22.1	25.8	24.2
Sugar	19.5	18.5	23.4
Fishery	16.6	16.0	17.7
Warehousing	13.9	12.8	11.3
Ordinary banks	16.8	16.2	15.6
Stock exchanges	6.7	7.2	8.9

Note: First half covering six months from March to August; second half from September to February.

Profit Rates of Leading Business and Industrial Companies
(In Millions of Yen)

	2nd half	1st half	2nd half
Authorized capital	21.281	22.469	23.567
Paid-up capital	15.961	16.707	17.383
Profit rate	14.8%	13.4%	13.1%
Dividend rate	7.8%	7.7%	7.8%
Reserve rate	41.2%	37.1%	35.6%

Note: Figures for 1.454 leading firms.

INDUSTRY CONTROL BODY TO FUNCTION IN E. INDIES

Sponsored by Military Authorities to Be Titled 'Higashi Indo Shogyo Tosei Kumiai'

Sponsored by the Military Authorities, there has been created a commercial control association to function in the East Indies, under the title "Higashi Indo Shogyo Tosei Kumiai," according to Domei. Details revealed by Domei follows:

"Japanese evacuees from the Netherlands East Indies, aggregating 4,000, are now prepared to resume their economic activities in the East Indies upon the restoration of peace and order there.

"On the occasion of the inauguration ceremony of the association which took place in the Imperial Hotel on May 4, a basic schedule of its members' activities was mapped out, including the pacification of natives as well as the distribution of general commodities.

"Some of the members have already sailed for their destination. They will be followed by another party. The association will have its head office in the branch office of the Bank of Taiwan at Batavia.

"It is expected that, with the Japanese activities started in the East Indies under the direction of the newly organized association, there will be a tremendous increase in the volume of business handled by the Japanese in these regions

"The personnel of the association has been published as follows:

Chairman: Lieutenant-General Toyoki Takata. Assistant Chairman: Lieutenant-General Nobutaka Shioten, and Jingo Yagi. Secretary: Toshio Hagiwara.

Abundant Coffee in S. India

The cultivation of coffee in India is confined to the southern districts, though attempts have been made to introduce the plant both into lower Burma and into the Eastern Bengal district of Chittagong. The coffee tract includes almost the whole of Coorg, the districts of Kadur and Hassan in Mysore, the Nilgiri hills, and the Wynaad. The cultivation has also extended to the Shevaroy hills in Salem district and to the Palni Hills in Madura.

Although local tradition dates its introduction two centuries back, coffee was not grown systematically until 1840. Since 1860 it has spread with great rapidity along the whole line of the Western Ghats, clearing away the primeval forest, and opening a new era of prosperity to the laboring classes. The export of coffee in 1905 was 360,000 cwt.; but mainly owing to the competition of Brazil, it has fallen considerably. The British Empire and France are the chief consumers. There is practically no local market for coffee in India.

Closing Quotations Of Key Local Bonds, Stocks, Commodities

Closing prices of key local stocks commodities and bonds yesterday on the Tokyo, Yokohama, and Osaka exchange follow, in yen:

		Comp. with prev. day
Tokyo Exchange, new, short-term	133.2	+ .00
N.Y.K., new, short-term	89.8	− .10
Kanegafuchi Spinning, new, short-term	98.8	− .50
Government bond, Kogo 5s	107.1	Same

JAPAN WILL AID THAI IN ECONOMIC GROWTH

Aiichiro Fujiyama Promises Whole-Hearted Cooperation Of Japanese Businessmen

Whole-hearted cooperation of Japanese businessmen in the economic development of Thailand was promised by Aiichiro Fujiyama, chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, at a reception in honor of the Thailand Congratulation Mission held Monday at the Imperial Hotel. Mr. Fujiyama also emphasized that Japan and Thailand should closely cooperate in the realization of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

The welcome reception was given under the joint sponsorship of seven influential economic organizations, namely, the Toa Economic Conference, Tokyo Bankers Club, Japan Economic Federation, Japan Industrial Club, Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Japan Foreign Trade Promotion Company. The function was also attended, as associate guests, by Finance Minister Okinori Kaya, Railways Minister Yoshiaki Hatta, high-ranking officials of various Ministries, diplomatic representatives of Thailand, China, Manchoukuo, Germany, Italy and Mongolia as well as about 300 other notable businessmen of this country.

Cooperation Urged

"The object of the War of Greater East Asia," states Mr. Fujiyama in his speech, "will be attained when the proposed Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere is completed. Unless each country in the Co-Prosperity Sphere carries out its economic function completely, it will be difficult to realize the new economic order in this part of the world. For this reason it is the duty assigned to Japanese industrial circles to extend aid for the economic development of Thailand and the stabilizing of the people's daily life in the country.

"Thanks to the efforts of Minister without portfolio Vanich Panananda an agreement has already been reached between Japan and Thailand as to the linking of the yen at par with the baht. I believe this new treaty will greatly contribute toward the smoother merchandise transactions between the two countries. Japanese industrialists are now ready to mobilize their knowledge and experience for cooperation in the economic development undertakings of Thailand."

Greatly appreciating the promise of Japan's aid in the economic development of his country, Lieutenant-General Phya Phahol Pholphaynha, chairman of the Thai Mission, declared that Thailand is now making efforts in cooperation with Japan, to emancipate Asiatic races from the yoke of the United States and the British Empire.

FEBRUARY WAGE INDEX SHOWS SLIGHT INCREASE

Marginal Rise Attributed to Augmentation in Earnings of Female Workers

The labor wage index in Japan for February stood at 423.8 on the basis of July, 1914, representing a slight gain of 0.2 per cent compared with the 422.8 for January, the Asahi Shimbun reported Thursday, according to Domei.

The February increase was solely attributable to the rise of the female labor wage index which jumped from 338 for January to 360, the Asahi survey revealed. The male labor wage declined to 446 from 452 of January, it is reported.

Details follow:

February Labor Wage Indices
(July, 1914—100)

	Jan. 1942	Feb. 1942
Female labor	338	360
Spinning	356	410
Cotton spinning	333	336
Wool weaving	276	285
Cotton weaving	336	[illegible]
Rayon weaving	386	400
Male labor	452	446
Turner	425	443
Casting	532	539
Cement	472	451
Medicine	620	609
Paper	576	563
Flour	529	493
Sugar	454	442
Confectionery	387	381
Rayon	471	454
Tailor	279	281
Carpenter	364	363
Mason	380	370
Sawing	317	320
Joiner	417	415
Type-setter	490	498
Stevedore	527	517
Free labor	384	385
Total index	423	424

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TOKYO, FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1942

The Fall of Corregidor

The inevitable has happened at last. Corregidor and all the other island fortresses at the mouth of Manila Bay have completely fallen into the hands of the Japanese Forces.

For some time past the American propagandists have been trying to make the world believe that the American resistance on these islands has been something unusual and remarkable. They have tried to make it appear that American resistance in the Philippines furnished the one bright hope of turning the fortunes of the war in the Pacific favorably for the Allies. The surrender of Bataan on April 11 and now the complete reduction of Corregidor has revealed what the American propaganda is worth.

As a matter of fact, the fate of the Philippines as a whole was sealed when the city of Manila fell on January 2. Since then the American forces had been able to hold out in the narrowly restricted locality of the Bataan Peninsula and Corregidor only because of the peculiarly advantageous topographical features of that region and because of the unparalleled fortifications on Corregidor. It may be remembered that at one time the Americans boasted that Corregidor would be able to hold out for at least two years; some said even indefinitely. But the American forces nevertheless have been suffering a steady series of defeats, culminating now in their complete capture. The propaganda which was intended to heighten the morale among the American people and to influence opinion abroad in favor of the Allied cause has now been rendered of no avail.

The consternation of the American leaders appears to be beyond imagination. Well might that consternation be great, for the defeats at Bataan and at Corregidor are the greatest American disasters since the Pearl Harbor debacle. Grave apprehension is reported to be prevailing in Washington over the psychological effects of this defeat on the already strained morale of the American people. How can the government explain what has happened in view of the repeated assurances of President Roosevelt earlier in the war that the Philippines would never be given up? This seems to be the dilemma of the Congressional leaders. Indignation is therefore being directed against President Roosevelt for having misled his people.

Not only is the fall of Corregidor an irretrievable blow to American morale; it constitutes an equally severe blow to the actual military situation of the Allies. It means that effective resistance to the Japanese Forces in the Philippines has come to a virtual end, for nothing now remains of American military strength there except small bands of entrapped remnants in the outlying islands which are rapidly been mopped up. It means the virtual completion of the Philippines campaign. The far-reaching consequences of this event on the general military situation of the war as a whole cannot be exaggerated.

This outcome of the Philippines campaign was not surprising to anyone who knew anything of the spiritual strength of the Japanese people. When it is realized that one of the notable features of the present War of Greater East Asia is the clash between the Anglo-American principle of almighty materialism and Japan's spirit of Kodo reinforced by the power of science, it is obvious as to which is bound to prevail. The vigorous spiritual power of the Japanese people, who are able to enjoy the unmatched blessings of the reign of His Majesty the Emperor over them, thus shows itself capable of anything. Even the mighty fortress which the enemy had claimed to be impregnable has now fallen before it. America and Britain have apparently been unable to grasp the significance of this striking feature of the present war and have placed undue reliance on the physical strength of their fortifications, to their own loss and sorrow.

The extent of the mental confusion of the Americans can be seen from the fact that they went to the length of lionizing General MacArthur, a man who had no scruples about deserting his troops and leaving them to their fate when he saw that there was no chance of his winning a victory over the Japanese Forces. Hiding behind the pretext of assuming a new post in Australia, he hastily beat a retreat to safety with his family while his troops were left to choose between annihilation and surrender. Notwithstanding this shameful conduct, the Republican party in the United States saw fit to consider him as a possible presidential candidate in the next election. Even Australia went so far as to entrust her fate to this defeated general by placing her forces under him as commander-in-chief. But all the fond hopes of these mistaken worshippers of MacArthur have now been completely shattered. What is there to be proud of in the reputation of the general whose forces in both the Bataan Peninsula and in the fortress at Corregidor have been captured intact by the Japanese Forces?

What disillusion and disappointment must the people of America and Britain feel in their trusted General MacArthur who vowed such a short time ago that he would defend the Philippines to the last man! What is there to prevent this great general, whom the Australians have secured as commander-in-chief, from leaving the Australians in the lurch as he abandoned his troops in the Philippines and making a "triumphal" return to America when he sees that there is no chance of success for him in Australia either! What would happen to America's promised aid to Australia when MacArthur flees to America! We cannot but have pity on Australia, who, still unable to realize the truth of the situation, is attempting to put up a resistance in sole reliance on the mere verbal promises of aid by provedly incompetent and irresponsible Britain and America.

Madagascar Invasion

What had been apprehended as a contingency since the formation of the present Laval Cabinet suddenly took shape last Tuesday when British troops under the shield of a strong naval force unlawfully made a landing on the French colonial island of Madagascar. First, the Laval Cabinet, because of its supposedly pro-Axis leanings, furnished the South African Union with a pretext for severing diplomatic relations with France. Almost in the same hour British invasion on Madagascar was thought a potentiality by no means so remote.

The present British invasion of the French colony is reported to have been undertaken with the support of a naval force composed of 2 cruisers, 4 destroyers and 2 aircraft carriers. The troops landed in the island are estimated at the strength of 20,000. The landing was made in the face of French resistance.

What is no less startling about this military event is that President Roosevelt lost no time to inform the Vichy Government warningly that should Vichy take any action against the British landed in Madagascar, he would regard it as an act of war.

The French Government of Vichy has ordered the Governor of Madagascar to resist the unlawful British landing and defend the island to the last man. Further, the French authorities seem to have made a strong protest to both Washington and London. That the French protest will go unheeded is not to be doubted. Moreover, the present indications are that both the United States and Britain intend to swoop upon other French colonies. Secretary of State Cordell Hull has already thrown out a hint that Washington has the intention of not only breaking with Vichy France but also seizing from France Martinique and other West Indian islands, on which his country has long fixed a covetous eye. He further stated that should there arise the need of reinforcing the British in Madagascar, American troops were being held in readiness to be rushed to the scene.

The British invasion over Madagascar is explained as a move to prevent the Axis Powers from using the island for their war base. The pretext is transparent enough. Germany, since the signing of the truce, has shown full regard for French neutrality. Japan's military advance into French Indo-China was based on a mutual understanding. None of the Axis Powers has violated the territorial right or integrity of France. Nor are they likely to do so for the duration of the war. No explanation can possibly justify the action taken by Britain in Madagascar. Its unlawful character is as clear as that of the recent occupation of New Caledonia by American troops. It would be futile to defend or camouflage the low motive of the United States and Britain who have always looked for a chance to prey upon French colonies.

The base motive of Anglo-Saxon action was perhaps best proved when the Melbourne Sun recently had the boldness to say that "the United Nations must sometimes waive the rule, if they are to rule the waves." It is almost an open admission that the Anglo-Saxon sense of justice and fair play on which they always used to take pride was only a sense of justice or fair play under the conditions provided to suit their own purpose or idea. It is now exposed that the Atlantic charter which was proclaimed last year as a high water-mark of democratic idealism, as we pointed out at that time, was but a lame attempt to mask the low motives of Anglo-Saxon policy.

The Laval Cabinet since its birth has been following lines of extreme caution. It was evident that it was carefully steering a course so as to avoid friction with the United States and Britain. This policy was enunciated by Premier Laval himself shortly after his coming to office and the course he has since taken no wise veered from the same policy. The effect of the unlawful and aggressive lines now being taken by Washington and London regarding French colonial possessions can only drive Vichy France into the Axis camp. Perhaps it is more appropriate to say that the United States and Britain are deliberately following such policy with the aim of causing disturbances in French possessions and thereby spread the devastating effect of war to all quarters of the world. Roosevelt and Churchill who must in time stand at the bar of world judgment for their criminal responsibility for the war now lay themselves open to the charge of spreading the ravages of war over areas which well might have been left in peace or undisturbed.

LEGAL ISSUES BETWEEN JAPAN AND SOUTH AMERICA DISCUSSED

Right to Sever Diplomatic Relations Without Plausible Reason Questioned

Most of the countries in South America and a few in Europe are now involved in the present world war, but they can hardly be said to be absolutely neutral because of the fact that they are more or less favorably disposed toward one or the other party to the war. It is necessary to take into serious consideration their attitudes and conduct in the future because they are bound to have an important bearing on the development and the final consummation of the war, states Kisaburo Yokota, in Gaiko Jiho.

From the Japanese point of view, the attitude of the South American nations is of two-fold significance. In the first place, if those nations should become involved in the war, taking sides with the United States, the situation will become disadvantageous. Some already have shown a strong leaning toward the Anglo-American combination. It may be even possible that they may ultimately participate in the war in support of the United States.

In the second place, we must remember that there are a great number of Japanese immigrants in South America. In the event the South American nations should become parties to the war on the side of the United States, these immigrants will be regarded as nationals of a hostile nation and made to suffer as such. At any rate, the situation is already grave and no one is warranted to speak of the situation in a light vein.

Nations Declaring War

In this connection, we may first take up the attitudes of the nations of the Central America. Immediately following the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, 9 out of 10 Central American nations declared war against Japan. Mexico was the only nation which refrained from taking such a drastic step, but it went so far as to sever its diplomatic relation with Japan on December 11, last year. It must be remembered that the step the Central American nations took toward the Axis Powers have had an important bearing on the attitude of the South American nations as a whole.

The South American nations, generally speaking, did not act so promptly or take such an extreme step at first except Colombia and Venezuela, the former having severed its diplomatic relation with Japan on December 8 and the latter on December 31, last year. The rest of the nations, however, adopted various measures such as freezing Japanese assets, restricting trade relations with Japan and recognizing the United States as a non-belligerent nation. There are 10 nations in South America, but none of them declared war or severed diplomatic relations with Japan.

But they too became stiff in their attitude by the middle of January, this year, when the Pan-American conference was held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The conference was held for two weeks, and by the end of the conference, many of them severed their diplomatic relations with Japan, Germany and Italy. Argentina and Chile are now the only nations in South America, which have not yet broken their relations with Japan.

Pan-American Confab

The change in the attitude of the South American nations against the Axis Powers is due chiefly to the activities of the Pan-American conference and the Central American nations to induce them to adopt the drastic measure. At the Pan-American conference, some of the members insisted that the member nations should declare war against the Axis Powers, but the conference did not include any item to that effect in its agenda. It, however, formally adopted a number of resolutions recommending, for instance, the severance of diplomatic and economic relations with the Axis Powers and the recognition of non-belligerent status of the Powers which were actually involved in the war with the Axis Powers.

There are many questionable points from the standpoint of international law and the diplomatic procedure in the attitudes and the steps taken by the South American nations against Japan. Severance of relationship between any two countries is a serious matter because it means breaking off diplomatic relationship. It is true that from the viewpoint of international law, there is no obligation for a state to maintain diplomatic relation with another country, and therefore, the severance does not violate international law.

Must Be Justifiable

Nevertheless the maintenance of diplomatic relations between nations is a normal condition when the nations of the world are so intimately related with one another. In order to sever this relation, there must be a plausible reason for it. When two nations are involved in a dispute, neither one refusing to yield to the other, they may break off their diplomatic relations, providing that they have no alternative for the solution of the problem. It is, however, entirely unjust and unreasonable for a nation to sever normal diplomatic relation abruptly without a dispute or previous negotiation.

In the light of this fact, therefore, the conducts of the South American nations against Japan and the other Axis Powers are not at all proper. They might have been dissatisfied with the attitudes of the Axis Powers. If that be the case, they should have opened negotiations with the latter before they resorted to the diplomatic rupture.

The same is true with the severance of economic relation. The maintenance of international commercial and financial relations among the nations of the world is normal. It is all the more so when nations concerned are the parties to a treaty of commerce and navigation and bound by duty to maintain it. In this case, a sudden severance of diplomatic relations is a violation of international law. Even if two nations are not bound by such a treaty, it has been international usage for them to carry on trade in keeping with the spirit of such treaty. That is a matter of international courtesy.

Flagrant Violation

As for the recognition of belligerent nations as non-belligerents, it is a flagrant violation of existing international law. It practically means that the nations which are not parties to the present war are to recognize various nations at war as non-belligerents in order to extend assistance to them. According to international law observed heretofore, nations which are not engaged in a war are neutral nations and have the right and obligation to observe as such. They, according to international law, must refrain from assisting either party involved in a war. If any of them assists one of the warring parties in spite of this ruling, it deliberately violates its obligation as a neutral nation.

But the resolution adopted by the Pan-American conference recommended various American nations, which were not involved in the present war, to recognize various other nations, which were already at war with the Axis Powers, as non-belligerents. This is, in the final analysis, nothing less than a violation of the fundamental principle of the obligation of neutral nation. As a matter of fact, many American nations have been helping the United States and other belligerent nations by ignoring this obligation.

Retaliatory Steps

The question is what Japan may do in the face of this situation. It is entirely proper that Japan may lodge protest with those nations for the violation of international law or the breach of international usage, demanding explanation and discontinuation of such practice. It may demand an indemnity in the event it suffered any damage from it. Japan may take such steps as a generally accepted international practice, but the eight South American nations have already severed their diplomatic relations with Japan and the Japanese Government cannot get in touch with them directly. Under the circumstances, it has to negotiate with them through a third Power which represents Japanese interests. At any rate, Japan may protest against those eight nations for their attitude. As for the other two nations which still maintain their diplomatic relations, the Japanese Government may negotiate with them directly over the matters in question.

Japan may also retaliate their breach of international usage by resorting to similar steps. The Japanese Government, for instance, may prohibit the activities of the diplomatic representatives of the South American nations in question and deprive them of the special privileges they have been enjoying. This is simply a matter of course and will go into effect automatically consequent on diplomatic rupture.

Japan may also retaliate by severing economic relations. This procedure may not be in keeping with the provisions of the treaty of commerce and navigation or the general principle of international law, but it will not be censured as illegal, being generally recognized as appropriate as a retaliatory measure. Japan, therefore, may restrict the business and financial activities of the South American nations in retaliation for the severance of economic relations the latter adopted against the Japanese residents in those countries.

The same holds good against the case of recognition of belligerent nations as non-belligerents. Japan need no longer respect the right of the South American nations, which minister to the convenience of the United States, violating the fundamental principle of neutrality. It may obstruct their commercial activities or attack warships of the United States which attempt to use the ports of the South American nations.

May Declare War

What is more, Japan may declare war against the South American nations. It is entitled to take such a desperate step against the latter for abruptly severing diplomatic relations and recognizing the belligerent nations as non-belligerents. The severance of diplomatic relations is a very grave matter, signifying the termination of a formal relation between two countries. Ordinarily, the diplomatic rupture is a preliminary step to war. At least a nation may resort to it in full knowledge of the possibility that such a step may lead the other party to declare war against it. The severance of diplomatic relations may not be a violation of international law, but if a nation deliberately and abruptly terminates diplomatic relations, it is inappropriate and unfriendly. It will furnish the other party with a very plausible reason to declare war against it.

When a neutral nation violates the fundamental principle of neutrality by recognizing a belligerent nation as a non-belligerent, no nation is called upon to regard it as a neutral nation. This does not necessarily call for an immediate declaration of war, but there is nothing wrong in taking a step to that effect. In fact, such is usually the case under an ordinary circumstance.

What Japan may do to cope with the South American nations is now apparent. It may either protest against them for their breach of international etiquette or treaty violation or else retaliate their unfriendly attitude and conducts by adopting similar measures. It may even go the length of declaring war against them. The point is which course is most appropriate and advisable for it to take in the face of the present situation. This is a political and not a legal problem. Japan has to handle this problem from the political, economic and military considerations with the ultimate end in view.

NATURAL BEAUTY SEEN IN ALL PARTS OF JAPAN

Historical Background of Three Scenic Spots Pictured

Japan is well known as one of the countries of the world most richly endowed with natural beauties. It offers to the visitor more variety, perhaps, than any other. Some come to Japan to study a unique civilization, some in search of health, some to climb volcanoes and visit hot springs, others to investigate some special art or industry, but all alike take pleasure in the wondrous beauties of nature to be found there. The "Three Places" (San-kei) considered by the Japanese the most beautiful in their country, are Matsushima in the North, Miyajima in the Inland Sea, and Ama-no-Hashidate on the Sea of Japan.

Matsushima displays beautiful promontories, bays and islets; there are said to be 88 islands between Shiogama and Matsushima along the coast of Rikuzen Prefecture, and 808 in all between Shiogama and Kinkwazan, of which few are inhabited. But eight and its compounds are a favorite round number in Japan, and, moreover, the smallest rocks are included in this enumeration. Each island, down to the smallest, has received a separate name, some of them curious enough and no less fantastic than the names are the shapes of the islands themselves.

In almost every available nook stands one of those thousand pinetrees that have given name and fame to the locality. Quaintest of all is the islet of Oshima, which is connected with the shore by tiny bridges. A fine panorama of the archipelago may be obtained from the hills near Matsushima whence the eye may be permitted to wander over the maze of islets and promontories—land and sea being mixed in inextricable but lovely confusion. Kinkwazan "Golden-flowered Mountain" is a sacred island where in old days—let it be admitted today with hushed voice—no female was permitted to set foot.

Sacred Island

Miyajima, in the Inland Sea, close to Hiroshima, is also a sacred island. It rises to a height of about 1,800 feet, and is very rocky and thickly wooded. Many small but lovely valleys slope down to the sea; and in these, among groves of maple trees, nestle the inns and teahouses for pilgrims and the dwellings of fishermen and image-carvers. An ancient religious rule forbade all births and deaths on this island, but this rule has been modified in accordance with modern ideas. Miyajima is dedicated to the three Shinto goddesses, daughters of Susano-no-Mikoto from the eldest of whom, named Ichiki-shima-Hime or Itsukushima-Hime, the alternative name of the island is derived.

According to tradition, the first erection of a temple on the present site dates from the reign of the Empress Suiko (A.D. 593-628); but early archives of Miyajima were lost in a great fire which occurred in 1548, and nothing certain can be

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LITERARY CLASSICS OF ASIA

HEROES ANCIENT AND MODERN

By Wang Chung (27 A.D.—)

It has been asserted that the ancients set high store on righteousness and slighted their bodies. When an event happened that appealed to their sense of loyalty and justice, so that they felt it their duty to suffer death, they would jump into boiling water, or rush onto the points of swords, and die without lament.

Such was the devotion of Hung Yen and the honesty of Pu Chan of Chen, who acted like this. Similar instances have been recorded in books. The cases of voluntary deaths and self-sacrifices are very numerous and not scarce.

People nowadays, they believe, are struggling for gain only and leading a wild life. They have discarded justice, and are not scrupulous as to the means they employ in obtaining their ends. They do not restrain one another by righteousness or vie in doing good. Disregard of justice they do not consider a source of danger nor are they afraid of the consequences of their wrongdoing.

All Ages Have Heroes

This is nonsense. The heroes of the ancient times are the heroes of the present age. Their hearts are equally sensible to benevolence and justice and in case of any emergency they will be roused.

In the past there have been unprincipled characters, and at present there are persons with the keenest sense of honor. Goodness and badness are mixed. Why should one age be devoid of either? The story-tellers like to extol the past and disparage the present time. They make much of what they know by hearsay and despise what they see with their own eyes. The disputants will discourse on what is long ago and the literate write on what is far away. The curious things near at hand the speakers do not mention, and the extraordinary events of our own time are not committed to writing.

When during a famine starved people were going to eat the elder brother of Tse Ming, a young man of Lang Yeh, he bowed and prostrated himself and asked to be eaten in lieu of his brother. The hungry people so much admired his generosity that they set them both free and did not eat them. After the older brother had died the younger took the orphan son and brought him up and loved him as much as his own. At the time of scarcity, when no grain was left so that both boys could not be kept alive, he killed his own son by starvation and preserved the life of the son of his elder brother. Hsu Shu of Lin Huai also brought up the orphan son of his elder brother and at the time of dearth allowed his own son to die of hunger in order to keep his brother's son alive. His magnanimity was like that of Tse Ming.

Sacrificing Spirit

The father of Meng Chang in Kuei Chi, Ying, was judicial secretary of the prefecture. When the general of the prefecture had beaten an innocent man to death, and the case came up for revision, Ying took the guilt upon himself, offered himself for punishment and at last suffered death for the general. Meng Chang later on became civil secretary of the prefecture. He took part in a campaign against insurgents, but the soldiers were routed and shot by the rebels. Thereupon he took the place of the commander which he did not leave until he was killed. Is there any difference between the faithfulness of Hung Yen and the righteousness of Pu Chan of Chen? But would the writers of our own time deign to sue these cases as examples?

For illustrations in proof of their views they go down to Yu and the Hsia periods, and down as far as the Yin and Chou dynasties. The exploits and remarkable feats of the Chin and Han epoch are already too modern for them. Fancy our own time, which comes after all the other ages, and what the narrators have seen with their own eyes. The painters like to paint men of ancient dynasties, and reject heroes of the Chin and Han epoch, however wonderful their deeds may have been. The scholars of the present age prize antiquity and scorn the present.

They value, the snow-goose and disdain the fowl, because the snow-goose is from afar and the fowl is near.

Realizing the Futility of Life

(Written on the wall of a priest's cell)

By Po Chu-I

Ever since the time when I was a lusty boy
Down till now when I am ill and old,
The things I have cared for have been different at different times,
But my being busy, that has never changed.
Then on the shore—building sand-pagodas;
Now, at Court, covered with tinkling jade.
This and that—equally childish games,
Things whose substance passes in a moment of time!
While the hands are busy, the heart cannot understand;
When there are no Scriptures, then Doctrine is sound.
Even should one zealously strive to learn the Way,
That very striving will make one's error more.

BIGGER AID FROM U.S. SOUGHT BY HU SHIH

Envoy Suggests Present Conflict Be Called 'Last War'

By a Special Correspondent

Some weeks ago President Roosevelt suggested at a regular press conference that the current war be given a proper name. In response to his call, Dr. Hu Shih, Chungking Ambassador in Washington, readily suggested a name which seemed to command the attention of many Americans. He proposed that it be known as the "Last War."

In this connection, we recall that the Allies during the last World War made their voice hoarse by crying aloud that they had been fighting "the war to end all wars." But the result was that the Allies killed millions of youths on battlefields only to spread the vicious germs of hate among the victors and vanquished and to lay an easily explosive dynamite of another wholesale war in the artificially-driven wedge in relations among world Powers.

Has Axe to Grind

When Dr. Hu Shih advanced the suggestion of the "Last War," the thought must have been foremost in his mind that he must help the Roosevelt administration in bolstering the morale of the American masses in order to get promises of further aid from the United States. For Dr. Hu Shih was shrewd enough to know that the American people would rally to the support of the Roosevelt administration if they were led to believe that this was the "Last War."

Allied leaders who are fully cognizant of the weaknesses of their own countries are pursuing a give and take policy of sentimental and moral support. They cannot fail to see that shipments of war supplies are completely out of the question in the light of severance of sea lanes by the Japanese Navy.

Greatly Disconcerted

Now Allied propagandists openly admit that the fall of Mandalay has been regarded gravely in the United States for it virtually has sealed the fate of the Chungking regime inasmuch as this Burmese city constituted the key point in the transportation of war materials to Chungking.

In his last fire-side chat, Mr. Roosevelt reiterated that although the Burma route was blockaded, new ways and means would be found to get to Chungking the materials it needs to carry on the war against Japan. In the same breath, a blunt admission was made by Mr. Roosevelt that the Japanese Forces have been making full use of the occupied territories, such as the Malay Peninsula, Singapore, the Netherlands East Indies, the territories that haunt to sting the guilty conscience of Mr. Roosevelt; for but for his promises that were not backed by accomplishment, these occupied territories would not have fallen into Japanese hands.

Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt are two men of one mind. When they see indications that their interests and influence may be undermined, they readily resort to name calling and brand as an enemy to humanity any country that makes an effort to correct the unfair and unjust status quo of the world situation which was dominated by Great Britain and the United States.

Professional Politicians

Both Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt are professional politicians tenaciously bent on promoting their own ends at the sacrifice of the flesh and blood of other nations whom they loudly profess to protect at any cost. When Mr. Roosevelt sent to Chiang Kai-shek a message of promises of further aid, he did not depart from his usual policy.

In the meanwhile, a ringing denunciation of Mr. Roosevelt's policy ran through an open letter to the American President written by M. Stephene Lausanne, a well-known French journalist. In the letter which appeared in Le Matin, he declared: "You, President Roosevelt, have dallied with the fate and blood of the nations, including your own, out of vanity. . . . When France was defeated after you had precipitated it into the war with all means at your disposal, you took the French gold and the French accounts that had been entrusted to your honesty, and you confiscated the French ships which in accordance with international law had taken refuge in your harbors, in order to surrender them to the British, including the proud Normandie which you let burn out. You exhorted France not to defend its colonial empire while you officially permitted its exploitation."

With brutal frankness, M. Lousanne declared: "You are a poor man, Mr. Roosevelt, for you are a saboteur. Saboteurs are the poorest of all people for they destroy spiritual as well as material values."

Roosevelt's Doings

From this revealing statement, both Chungking and Australia may learn an important lesson if they had horse sense. Even the muddled-up minds of Australian and Chungking leaders should remember that Mr. Roosevelt has been instrumental in destroying nations in Europe and their colonial possessions in East Asia. He helped in the fall of these regions because of his self-centered desire to let other peoples fight his war and and at the same time to prevent his own country from becoming a battlefield.

If Chiang Kai-shek, on the strength of Mr. Roosevelt's pledges of assistance, continues a futile resistance toward Japan a little longer, he will ruin not only his own life but that of the large masses who are toiling day and night under Chungking's heavy taxation of a confiscatory nature. The American people must be informed of this tragic fact, the fact that has been brought about by Mr. Roosevelt's policy of instigation and destruction. Really, Mr. Roosevelt is No. 1 saboteur in the world.